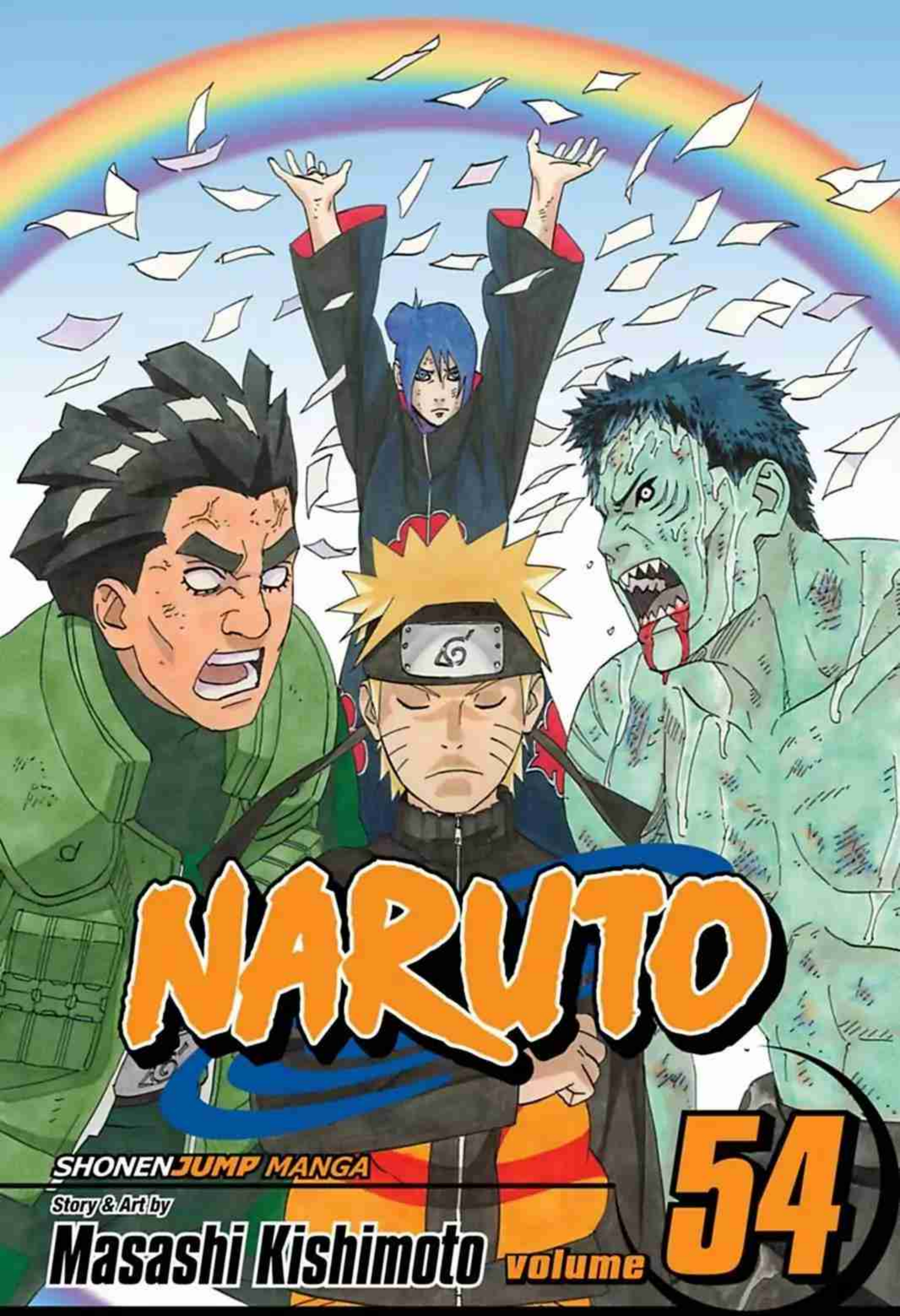
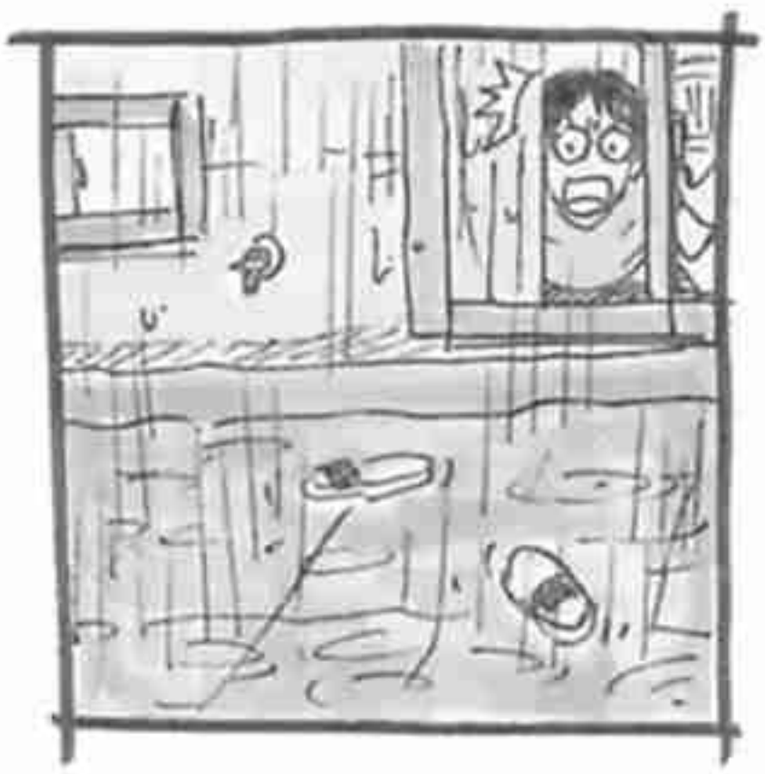

NARUTO
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Masashi Kishimoto
volume 54



岸本斉史

The other night, during a bad rainstorm, I happened to peer out the window. "Look at all that rain... *What...?!!*" It wasn't just the rain! Rainwater had started accumulating on my veranda, forming a pool of water! The drain had gotten clogged, and it created a scene similar to the one in *Ponyo!* I was afraid for the first time in a while...

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2010*

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

NARUTO VOL. 54
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition
This graphic novel contains material that was originally published in English in SHONEN JUMP #102–105. Artwork in the magazine may have been slightly altered from that presented here.

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

Translation/Mari Morimoto
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Inori Fukuda Trant, Sabrina Heep
Design/Sam Elzway
Series Editor/Joel Enos
Graphic Novel Editor/Megan Bates

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
NARUTO is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

ratings.viz.com

www.shonenjump.com

SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

CHARACTERS

Naruto ナルト

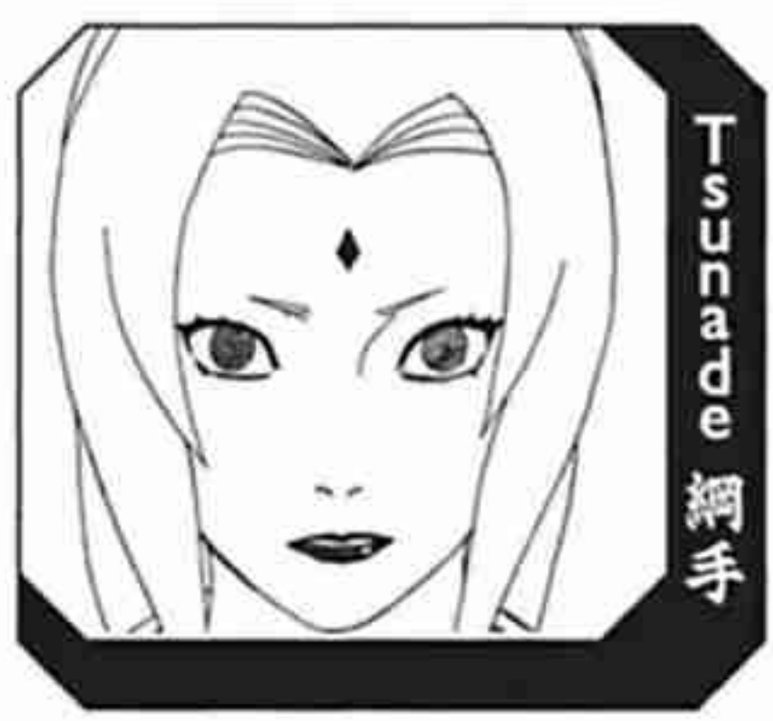
Sasuke サスケ

Kakashi カカシ

Sakura サクラ

Sai サイ

Yamato ヤマト


Tsunade 綱手

Gaara 我愛羅

THE STORY SO FAR...

Naruto, the biggest troublemaker at the Ninja Academy in the Village of Konohagakure, finally becomes a ninja along with his classmates Sasuke and Sakura. They grow and mature through countless trials and battles. However, Sasuke, unable to give up his quest for vengeance, leaves Konohagakure to seek Orochimaru and his power…

Two years pass. Naruto grows up and engages in fierce battles against the Tailed Beast-targeting Akatsuki. Elsewhere, after winning the heroic battle against Itachi and learning his older brother's true intentions, Sasuke allies with the Akatsuki and sets out to destroy Konoha.

Upon Madara's declaration of war, an Allied Shinobi Force is formed. Naruto, sent away in the name of protecting the jinchûriki, succeeds in taking in Nine Tails' chakra. Plus, when his mother reappears to explain the secrets of his birth, Naruto accepts his parents' hopes and renews his vow to become Hokage!

NARUTO

VOL. 54
PEACE VIADUCT

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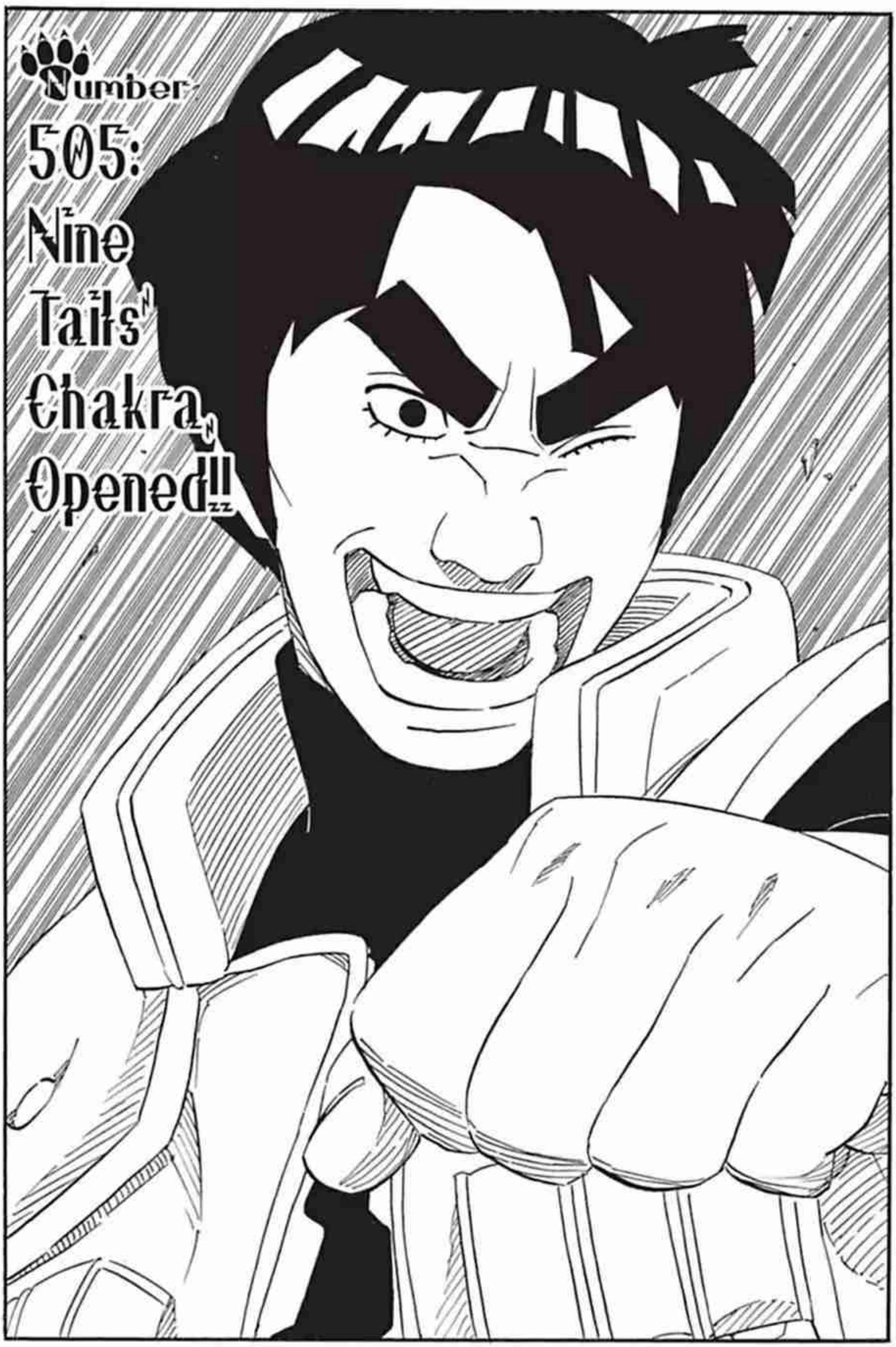
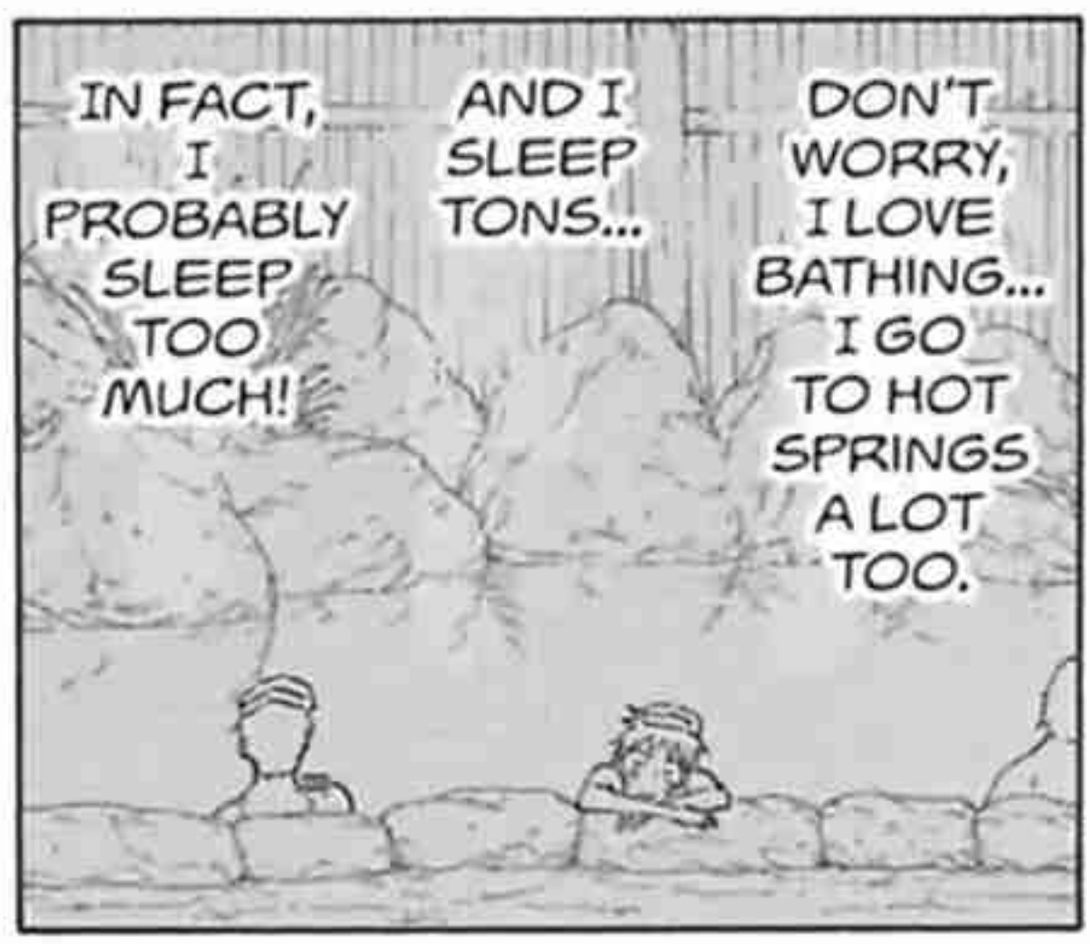

Number
505:
Nine
Tails
Chakra
Opened!!

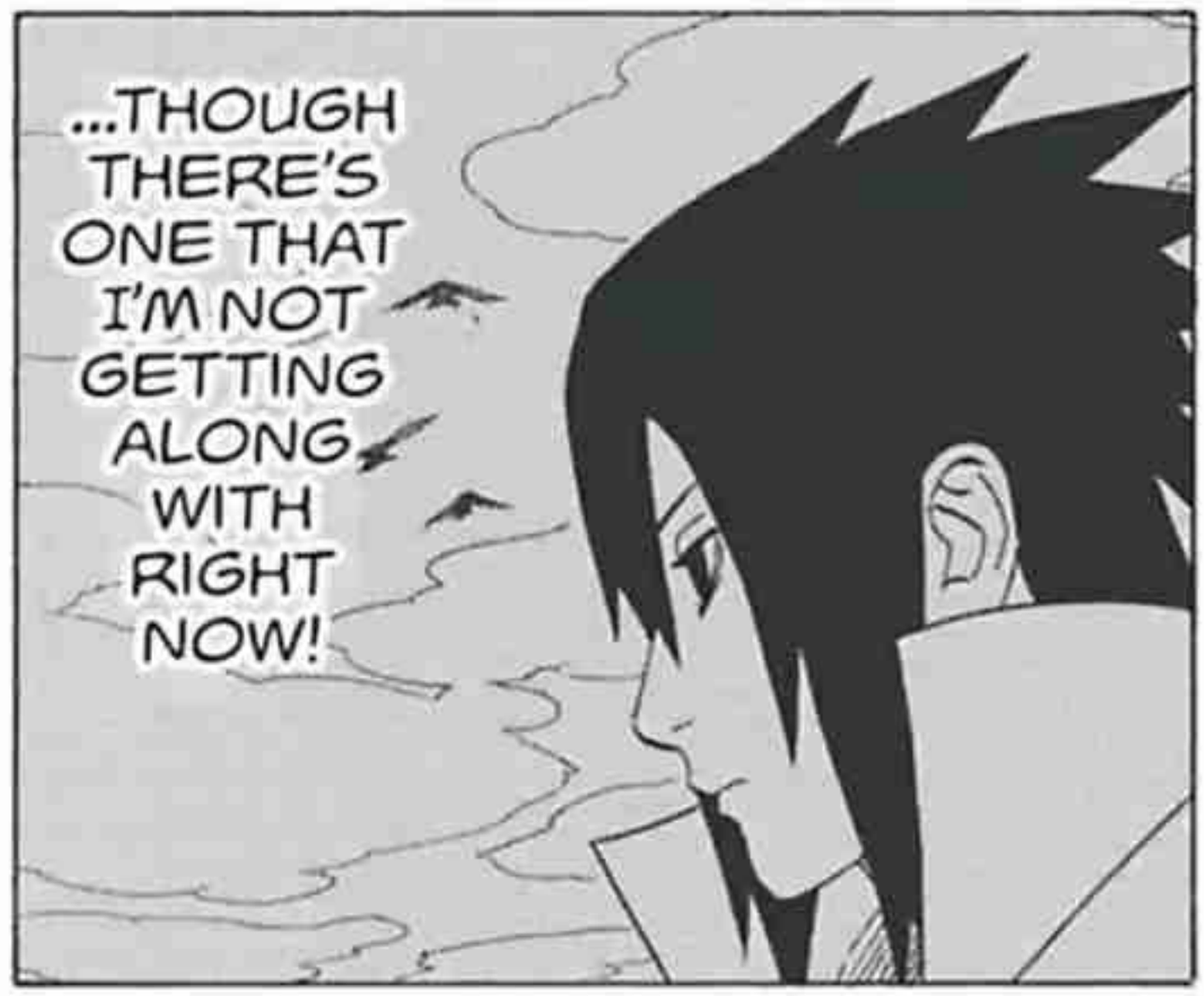
MA...


IN FACT, I PROBABLY SLEEP TOO MUCH!
AND I SLEEP TONS...
DON'T WORRY, I LOVE BATHING... I GO TO HOT SPRINGS A LOT TOO.

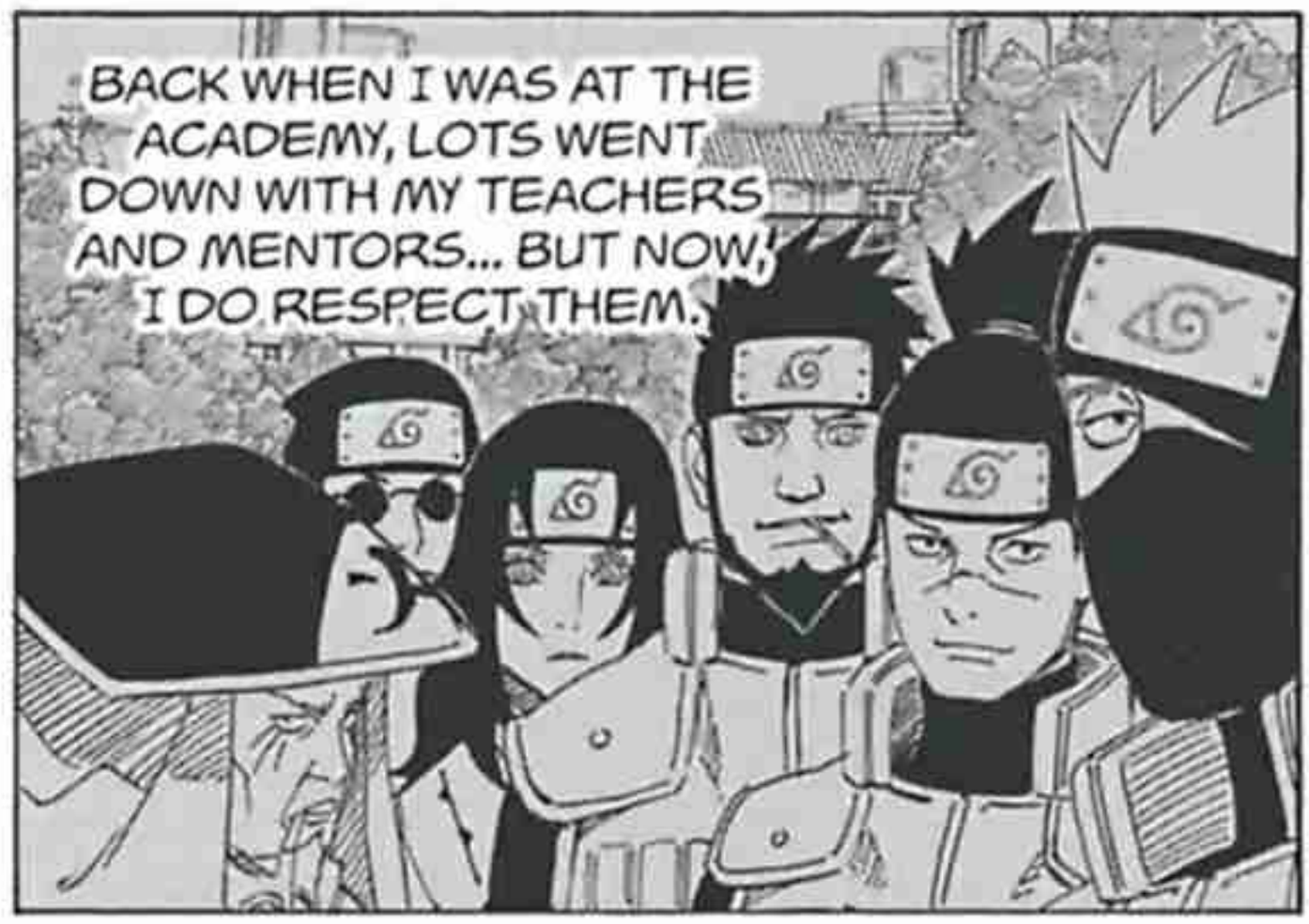
FROM NOW ON... I PROMISE I'LL EAT VEGGIES, NOT JUST RAMEN...

I WISH YOU COULD HAVE MET THEM, MA...
I'VE GOT LOTS OF FRIENDS, TOO.

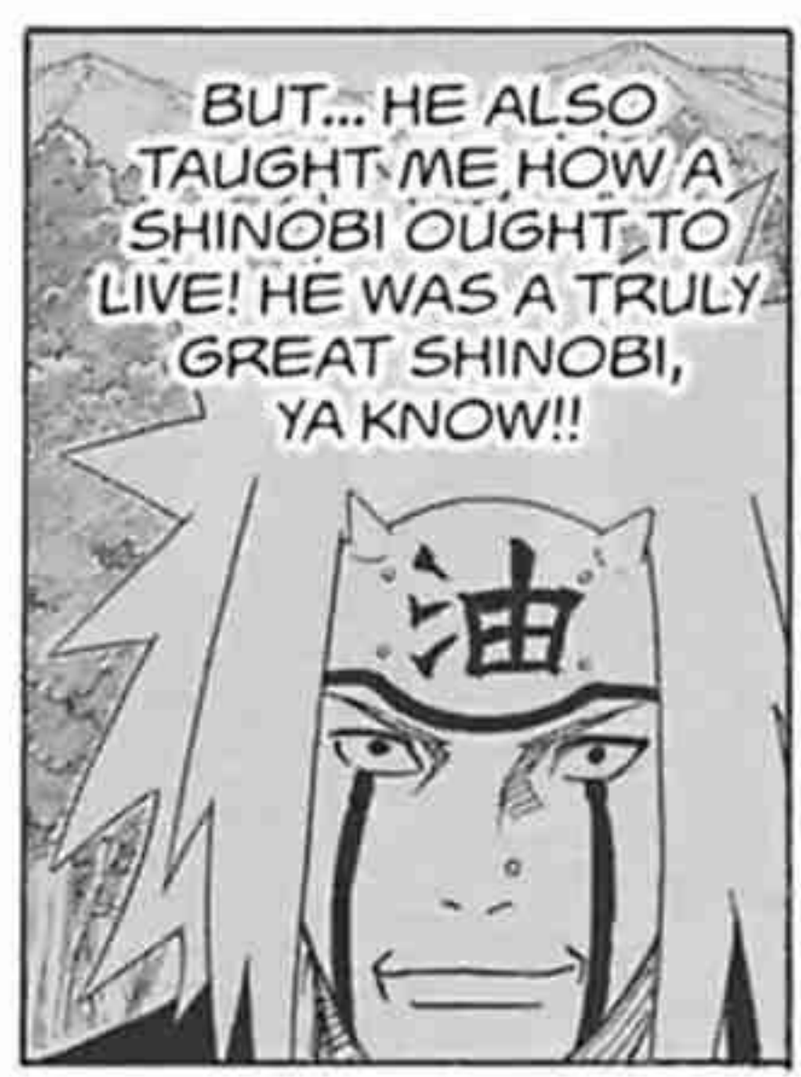
BUT I'M OKAY ABOUT IT, YA KNOW!!
ABOUT MY STUDIES... WELL... YOU FEARED RIGHT, MA...
0点


...THOUGH THERE'S ONE THAT I'M NOT GETTING ALONG WITH RIGHT NOW!

FOR SURE, HE WAS JUST LIKE YOU DESCRIBED, MA!
MASTER JIRAIYA TAUGHT ME THE THREE SHINOBI PROHIBI-TIONS...


BACK WHEN I WAS AT THE ACADEMY, LOTS WENT DOWN WITH MY TEACHERS AND MENTORS... BUT NOW, I DO RESPECT THEM.

MY DREAM IS TO BECOME HOKAGE!
...I AM UZUMAKI NARUTO, KONOHA NINJA.
AND TO SURPASS ALL OTHER HOKAGE...!!


BUT... HE ALSO TAUGHT ME HOW A SHINOBI OUGHT TO LIVE! HE WAS A TRULY GREAT SHINOBI, YA KNOW!!
油

TO BECOME AN EVEN COOLER GUY THAN PA!!!
THMP
AND AN EVEN MORE POWERFUL SHINOBI THAN YOU, MA!!!

?!!

YEAH!!!

WHOA!!

I SEE... I GET IT, I *UNDERSTAND* ♪ YOUR FACE, IT'S CALM, TOTALLY *BLAND* ♪

BUMP

WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOU SUCCEED?!

THIS AND THAT, A LOT OF THINGS...!

YO ♪

...

WELL, GOOD FOR YOU...

... ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU USED *IT* IN *THAT* SITUATION ♪

HEH HEH HEH ...

DID YOU ACHIEVE CONTROL ?

WHAT ABOUT NINE TAILS?

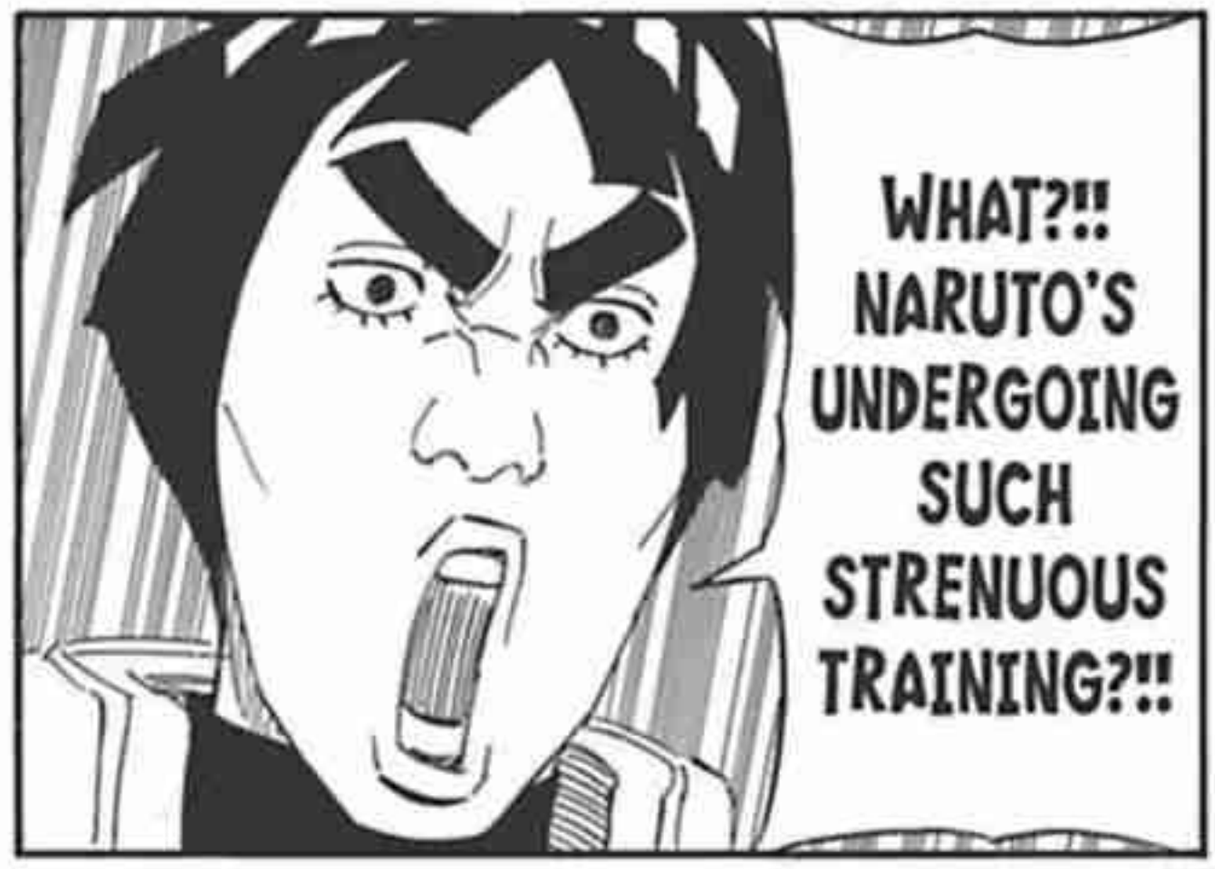
I SAID, TELL ME WHAT TOOK PLACE!!! "THIS" AND "THAT" DON'T MEAN ANYTHING TO ME!!

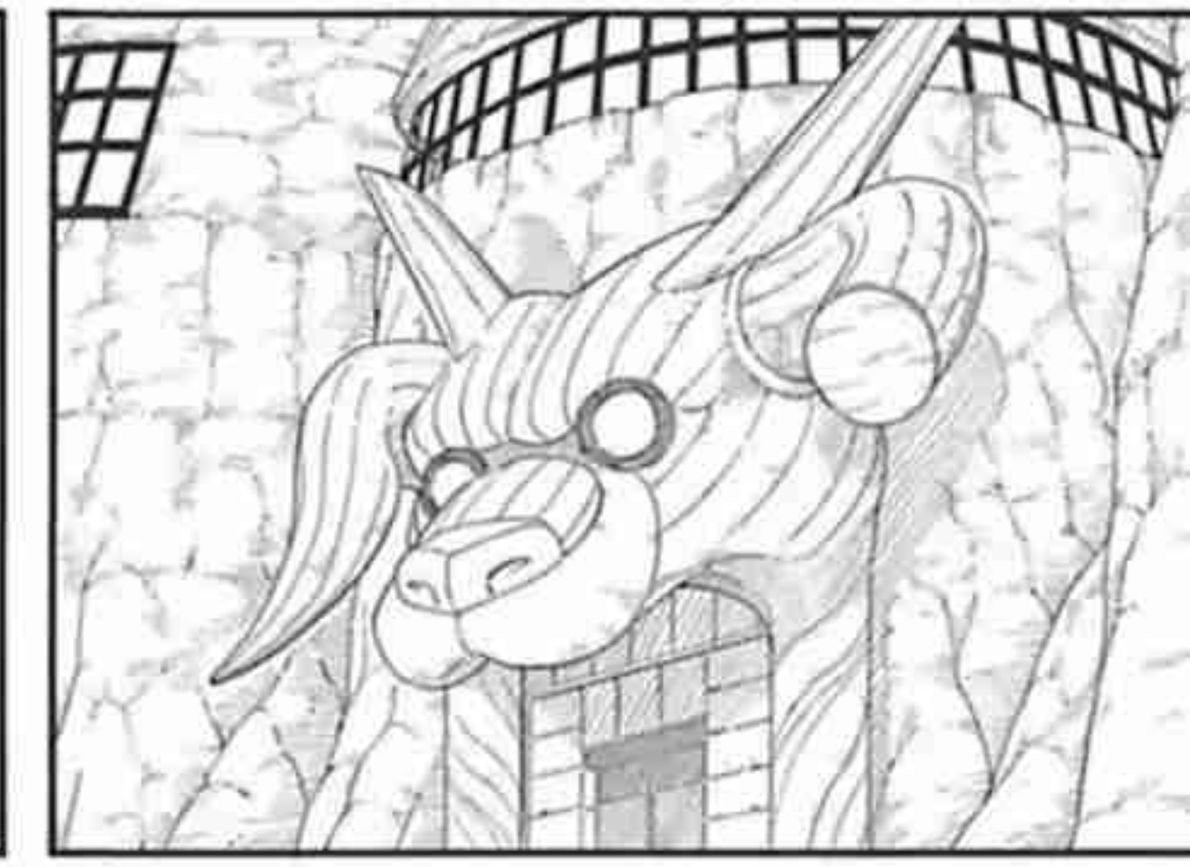
GAH!! YOU'RE DOING THIS ON PURPOSE!!! I CAN TELL!!!

WOO-HOO!

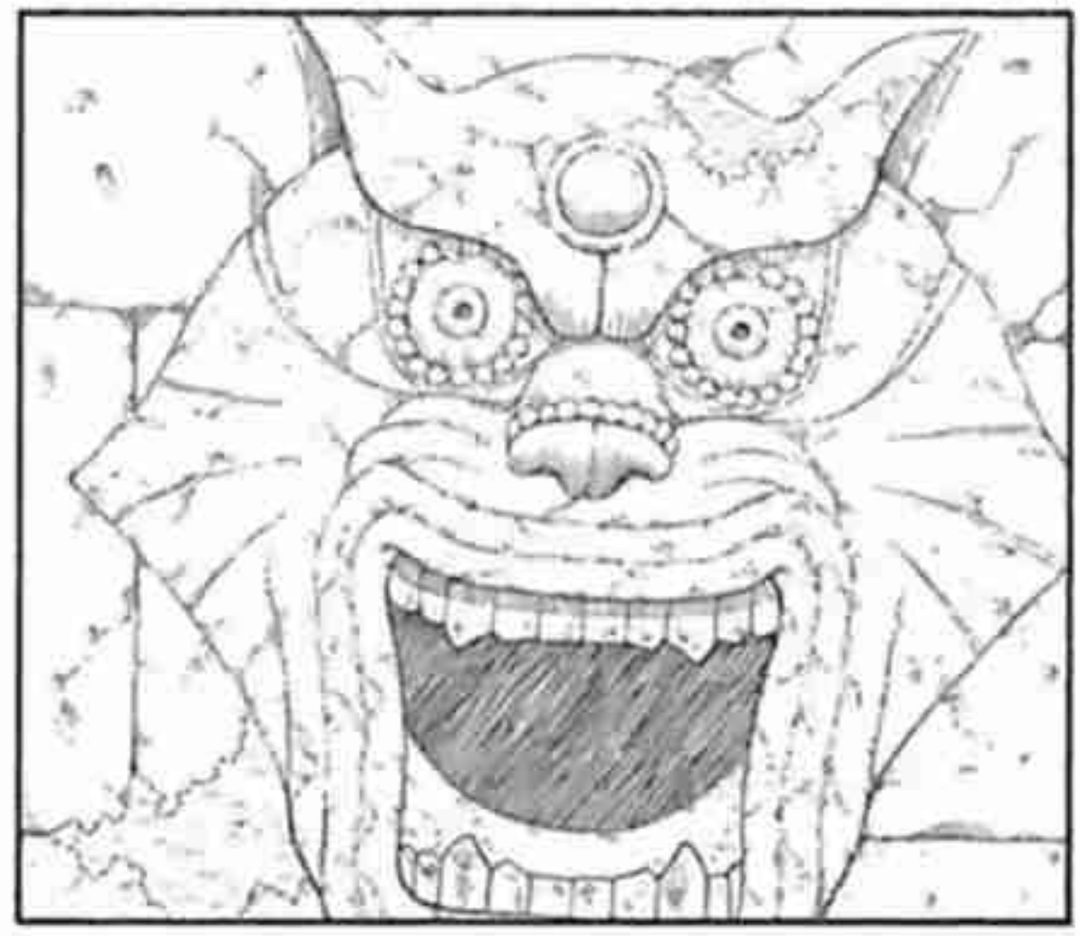
YUP! THAT'S RIGHT!

WHOA, WAIT A SEC! NARUTO, DON'T TELL ME THAT BY THAT, YOU MEAN YOU-KNOW-WHAT?!!

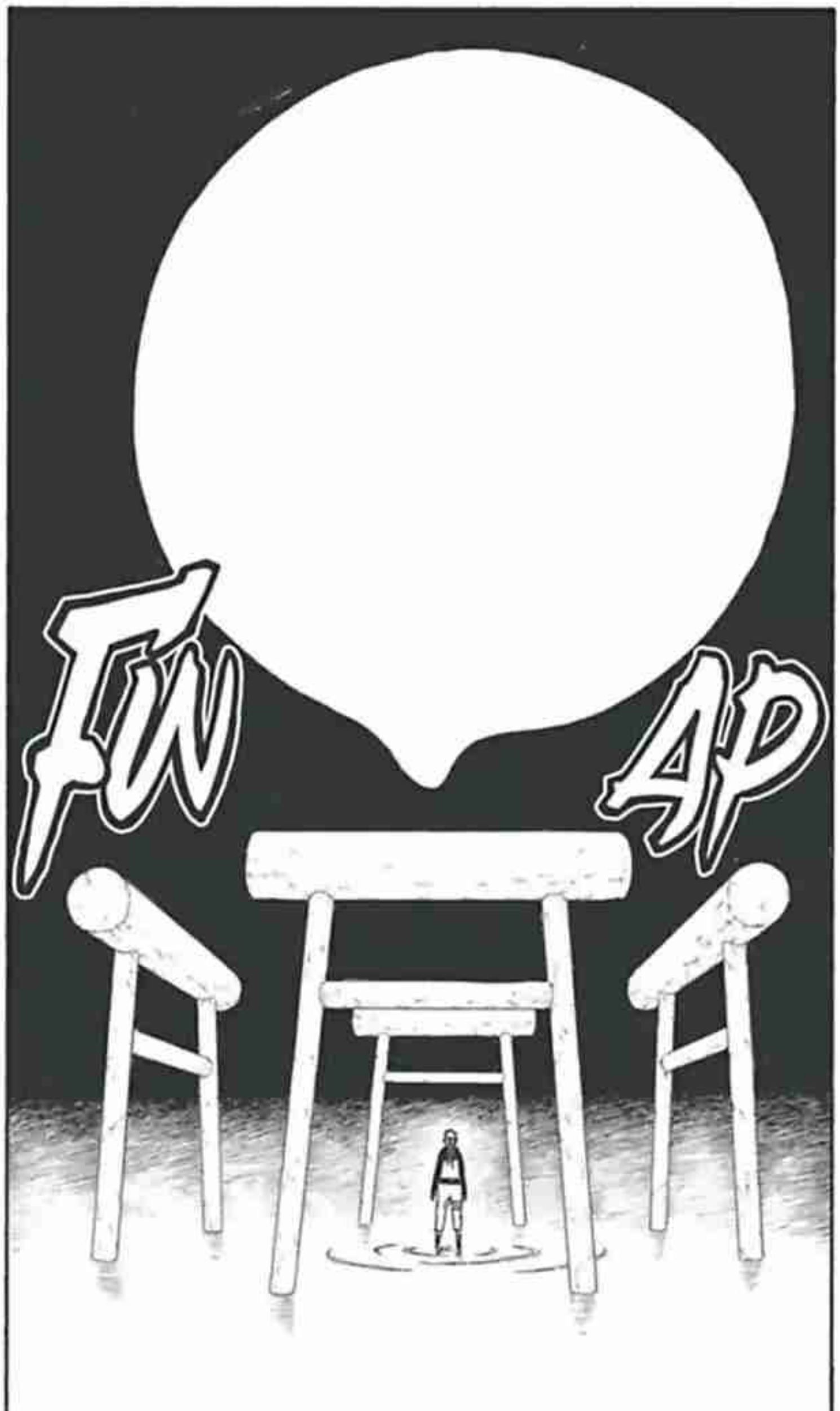


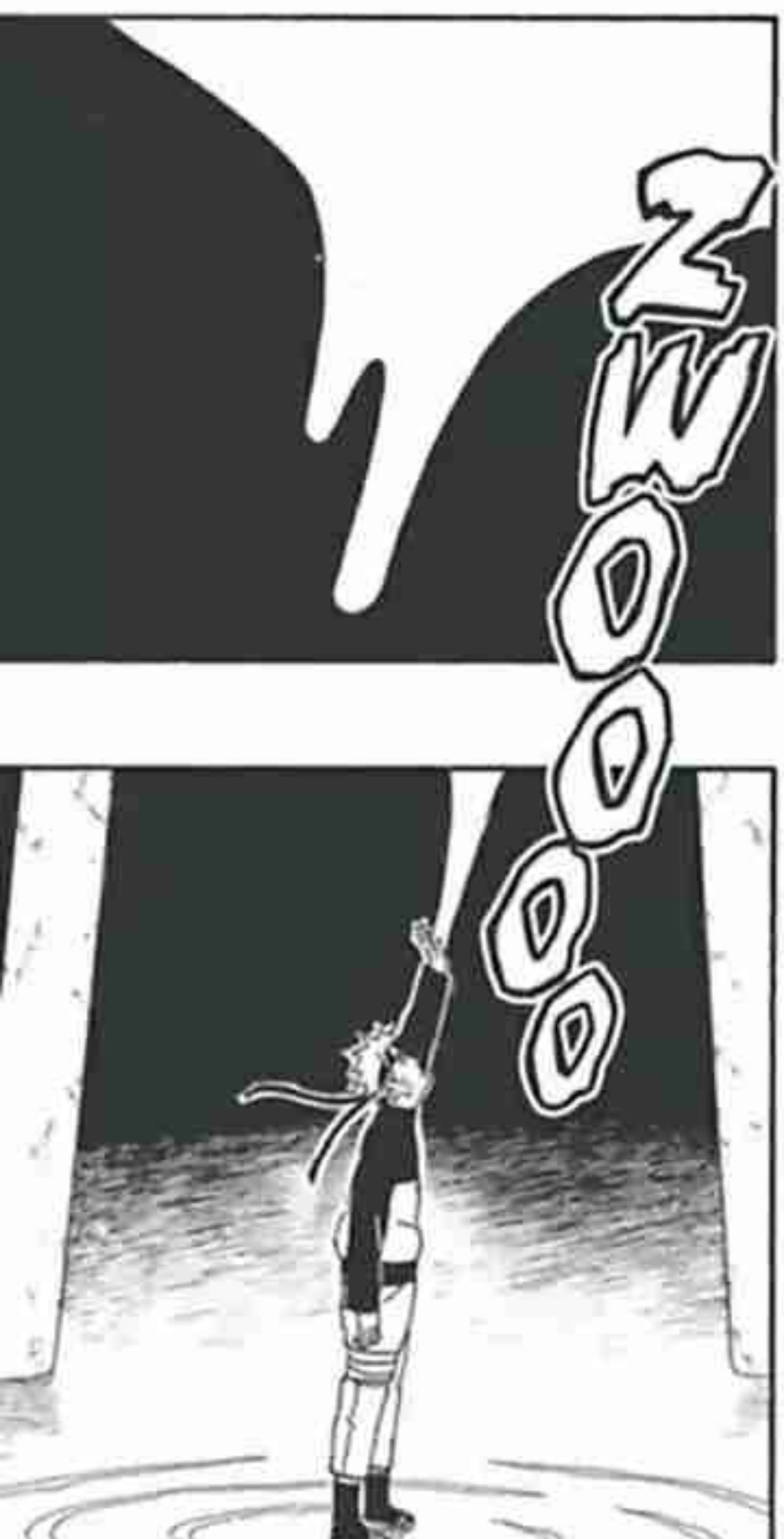


SO THAT I'M NOT USING IT ALL THE TIME...
I'VE STORED NINE TAILS' CHAKRA IN A DIFFERENT PLACE WITHIN ME.



FSH


FW
AP


ZWO

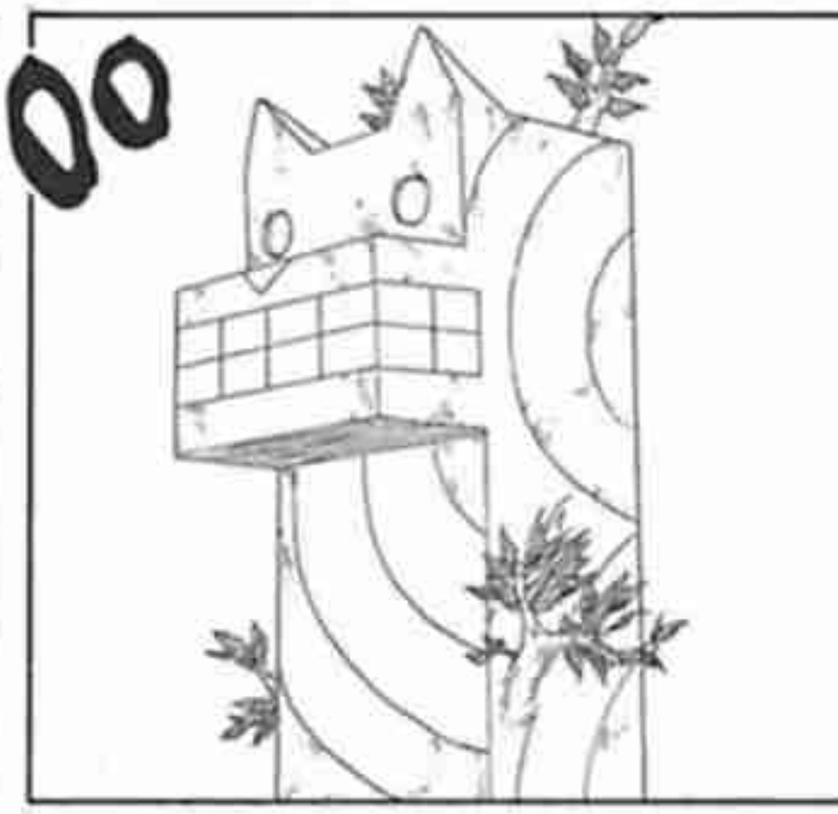
TWO P

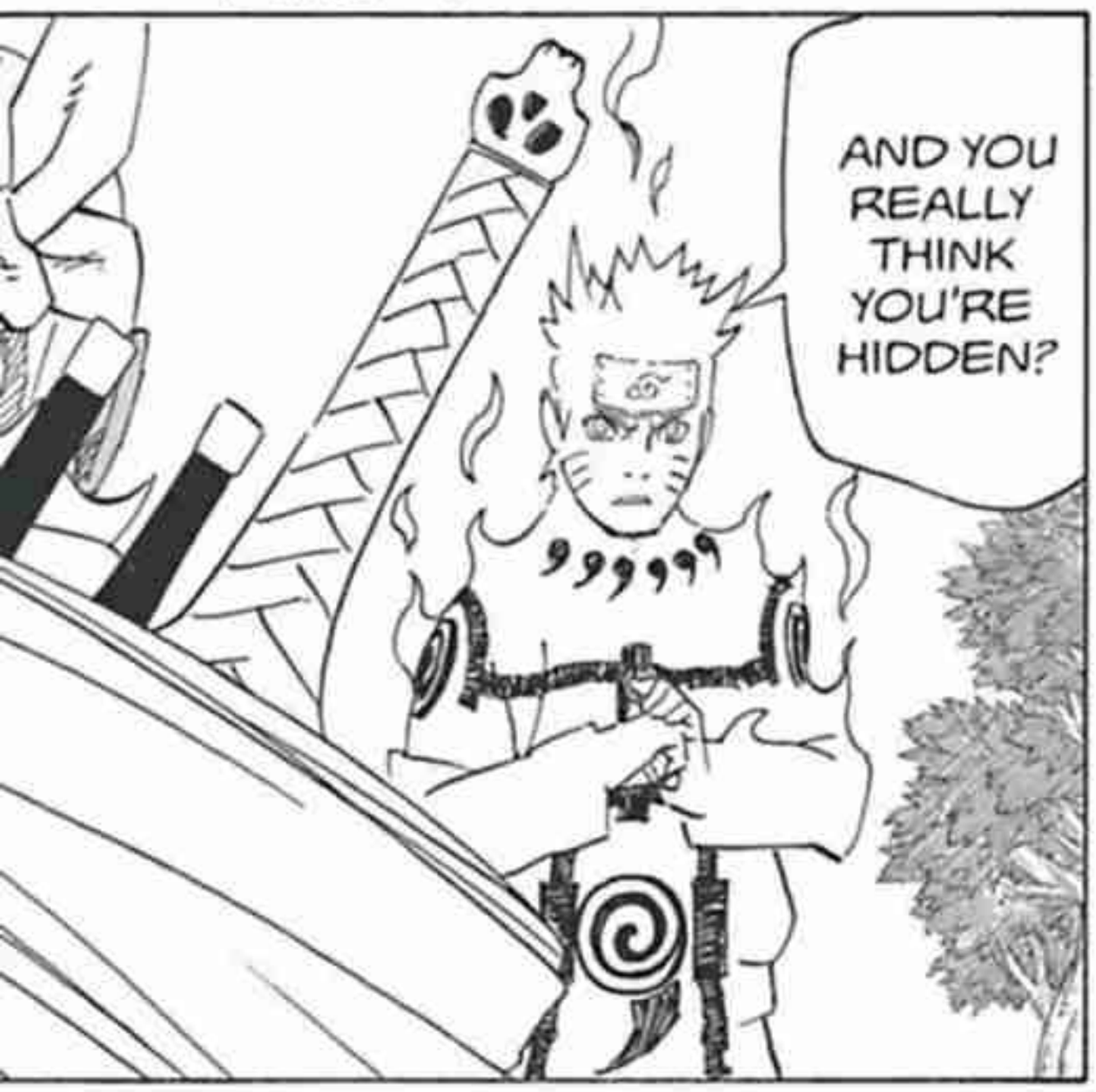
BZP

BZP

BZP

THIS IS HOW IT IS WHEN I TAP IT!!




AND YOU REALLY THINK YOU'RE HIDDEN?

HUH ?!
!!

WHAT IS IT?!
?

YEAH, HE SENSES ANOTHER'S PRESENCE ♪
THAT I DIDN'T WAS CARE-LESS OF ME, I MUST DO PENANCE ♪
WIP WIP
YOU'RE SENSING SOME OTHER CHAKRA?

COMING FROM THERE! IT'S YOUR BLADE...
IT'S SOMETHING ELSE. SOMETHING BAD!!
IT'S NOT CHAKRA!

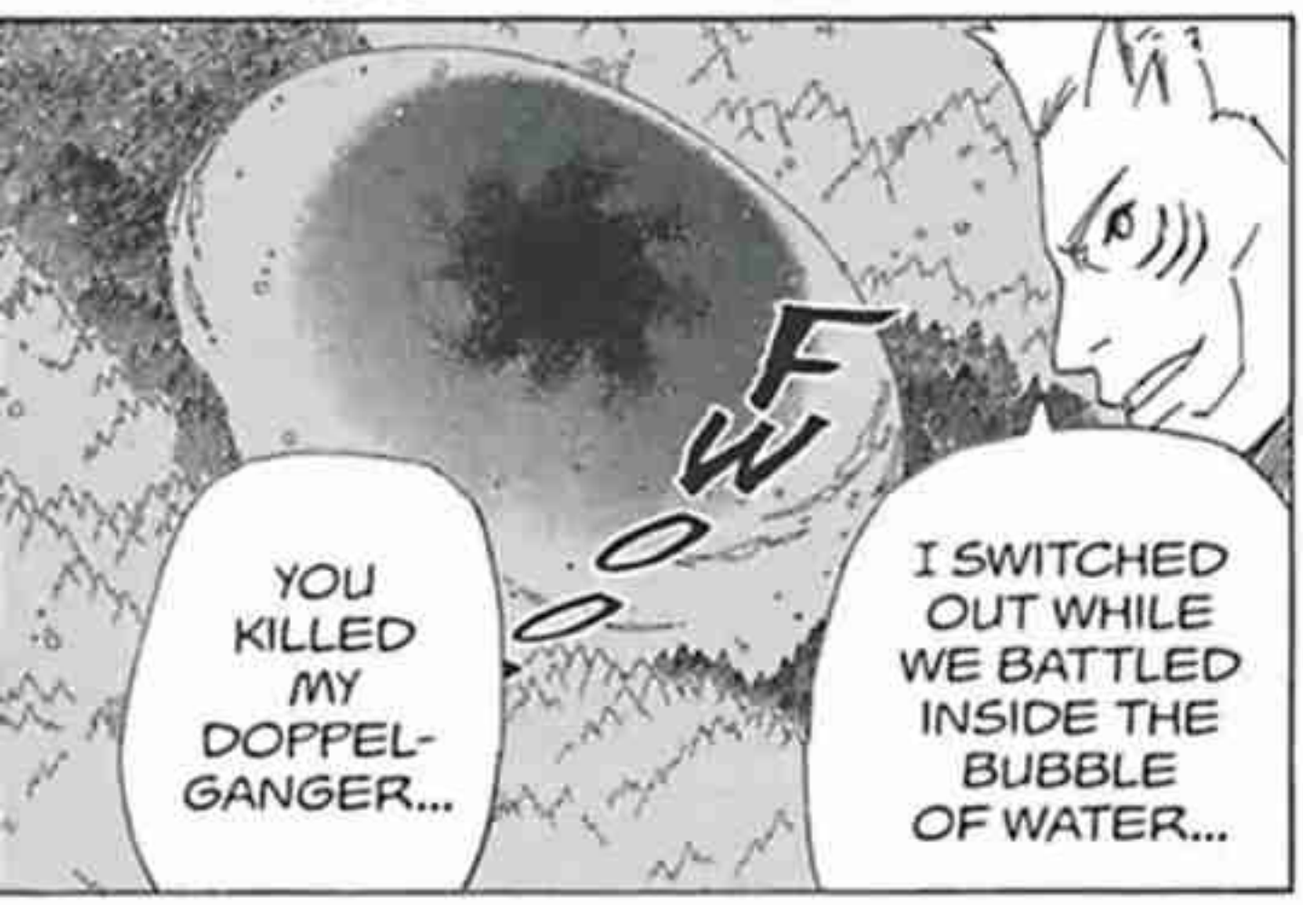
MY CHAKRA HAS THE SAME FLAVOR AS SAMEHADA...
IT OUGHTN'T BE DETECT-ABLE...!
IMPOS-SIBLE!!

ZUOOO

!
IT APPEARS YOU CAN SENSE HATE... AND OTHER NEGATIVE EMOTIONS.

YOUR BLADE ...?!
!!

RRK
THAT DOESN'T FIT ANY KNOWN SENSORY TYPE...
SO IT MUST BE A POWER OF A JINCHÛRIKI WHO HAS ACHIEVED CONTROL OVER NINE TAILS...
RRK


YOU KILLED MY DOPPEL-GANGER...
FWOO
I SWITCHED OUT WHILE WE BATTLED INSIDE THE BUBBLE OF WATER...

BUT HOW? WE CHOPPED HIS HEAD OFF A-WAYS BACK ♪
HOW DID YOU EVADE ME AND MY BROTHER'S TAG TEAM ATTACK?! ♪
YOU'RE... AKATSUKI, THE SHARK GUY!!

WELL... WE'LL LEAVE IT AT THAT, FOR NOW...
THAT WAS A SPECIAL TYPE OF DOPPELGANGER... A PARASITIC DOPPELGANGER THAT CAN BE REMOTELY OPERATED BY THE CASTER...

THE CORPSE REMAINED POST-MORTEM, NO QUESTION ♪
AND IF SOMEONE ELSE HAD TRANSFORMED INTO YOU, CEE WOULD HAVE SENSED IT, SO STILL A PERPLEXING CONSTER-NATION ♪
BUT A DOPPEL-GANGER DISAPPEARS WHEN YOU KILL IT.

I CAME HERE AS A SPY, YOU KNOW...
SILLY QUES-TION...
G-G-G-G-G-

HOW DID YOU KNOW HOW TO OPEN THE DOOR TO THIS ROOM?!
HUH?!
HOWEVER, THIS SITUATION, TO BE FACING TWO JINCHŪRIKI AND A MOKUTON USER...
...IS HONESTLY VERY TOUGH, EVEN FOR ME.
KLIK

?!!

ARGH!!

...THE YELLOW FLASH! ♪

SHK

WAS THAT TELEPORTATION JUTSU...? FIRST AT BAT, QUITE A SMASH ♪

HUH?

THAT WAS JUST LIKE...

!
SKITTER SKITTER

SO FAST... UNBELIEV-ABLE...
UGH!
WHOOOSH

MISTER BEE, PLEASE GO AFTER KISAME!
LOOKS LIKE HE DOESN'T HAVE THE FOURTH LORD'S SKILLS JUST YET!
I'LL HELP NARUTO!

WAH! MY LEG!
I HIT THE WALL TOO HARD. I'M STUCK!

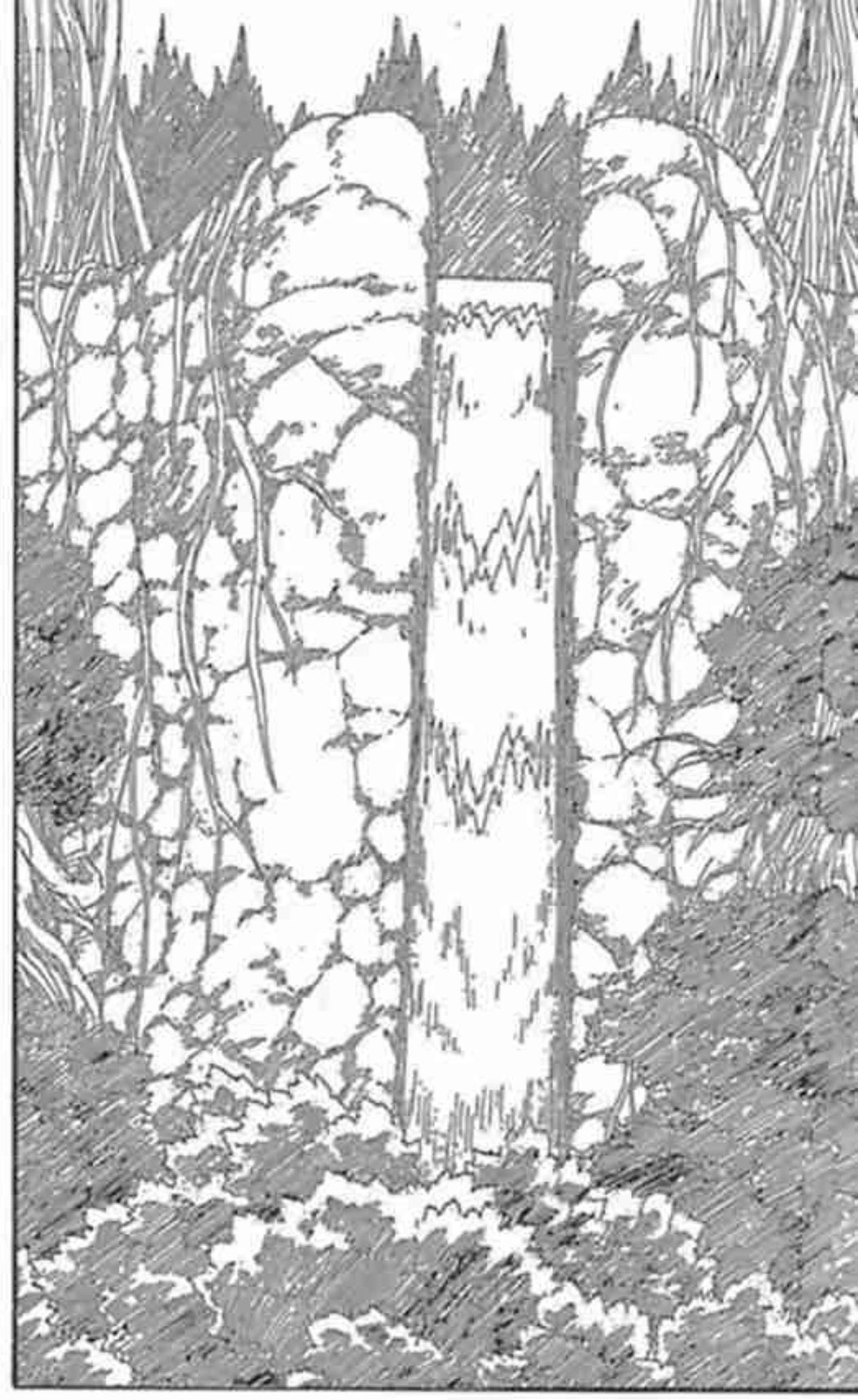
?!!

SKITTER SKITTER

CATCH HIM RIGHT AWAY, SHALL BEE ♪
LEAVE THE CHASE TO ME ♪

YES... AND NARUTO ALSO FACED AND DEFEATED HIS TRUE SELF HERE.
HO... REALLY...?
WHY DON'T YOU TRY, GUY?

I CAME HERE AS HIS MENTOR, TO PROTECT HIM!!
FOOL! HELPING NARUTO IS MORE IMPORTANT!
Y-YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET SO MAD...



NO WAY!!!
TMP
AHA HA HA...!! WHAT?! YOU THINK I'M SCARED?!!

FSH
YOU'RE SO SERIOUS...
OH NO... I WAS JUST JOKING... ALTHOUGH I HAVE A FEELING YOUR TRUE NATURE ISN'T HUMAN... AHA HA HA.

...OR ARE YOU JUST AFRAID TO FACE YOUR TRUE SELF...?
...

IF A MAN PAST HIS PRIME LIKE YOU OVER-DOES IT, HIS BODY WILL FAIL.
THD-THD-THD
HONESTLY... YOU REALLY OUGHTN'T BE HARPING ABOUT THE SPRINGTIME OF YOUTH, SHOULD YOU...?

!

...BUT I DON'T THINK ANYONE REALLY WANTS YOUR FORCED SPRINGTIME YOUTH, NO?
THD-THD-
THD-THD
I CAN UNDER-STAND LEE NEEDING TO FORGE AHEAD WITH YOUTHFUL VIGOR...

KNOW THY TRUE SELF...
VERY WELL THEN...

INSTEAD OF JUST SAYING WHAT YOU WANT FROM THE SHADOWS!!
SHOW YOUR-SELF!!
WO
P

ドカ
ドカ

I SHALL REMIND MYSELF AGAIN BY REFORMING YOUR SPIRIT WITH MY FISTS!!
I HAVE FORGOTTEN WHAT SPRINGTIME IS!
FSH...

...ISN'T THAT... THAT ODD BEAST?!

AN INSECT ?!!
TH-THIS IS MY TRUE SHAPE ...??!!

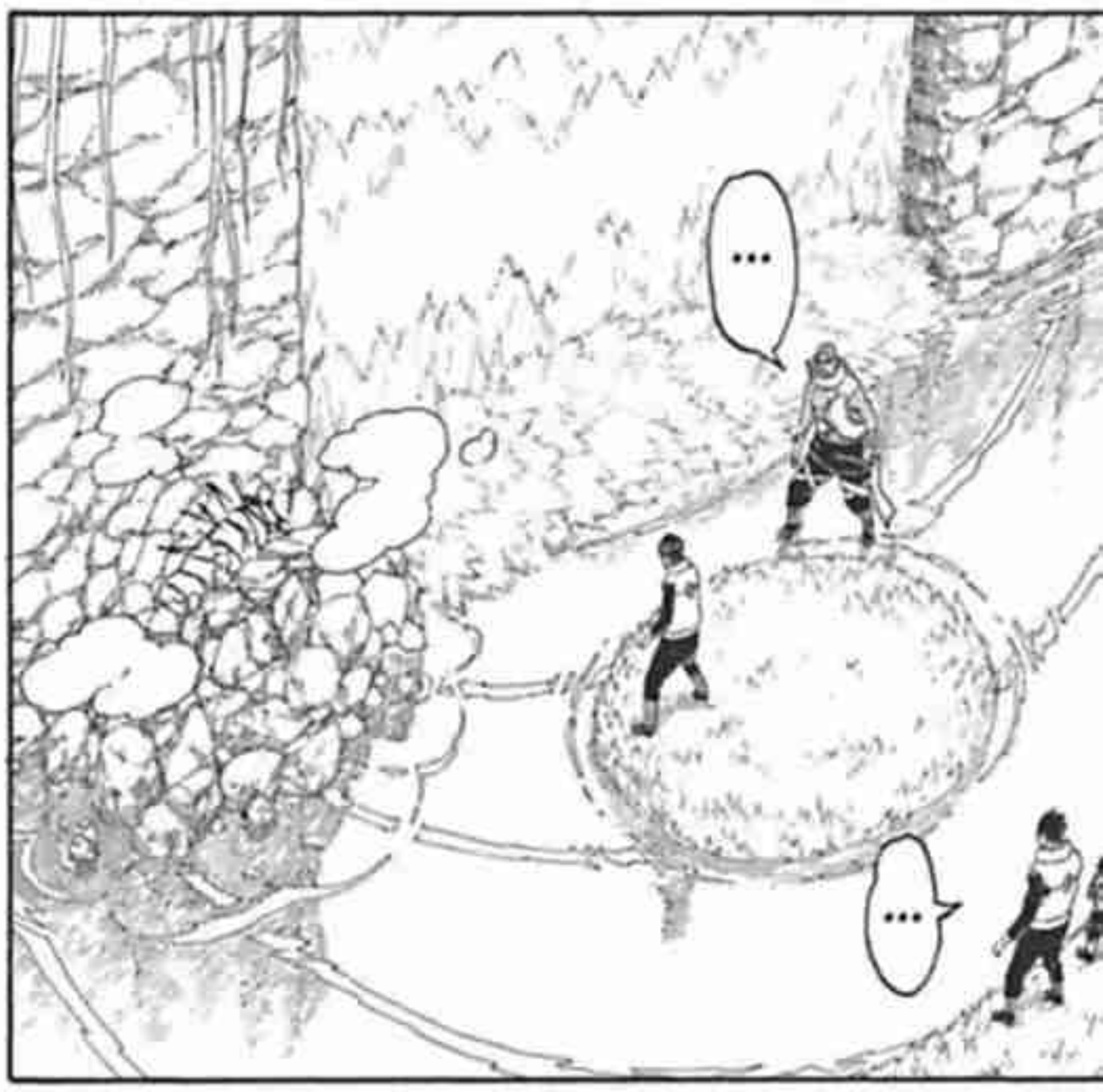
MISTER GUY! THAT IS NOT YOUR TRUE SELF!!
WATCH OUT!
SWOOO

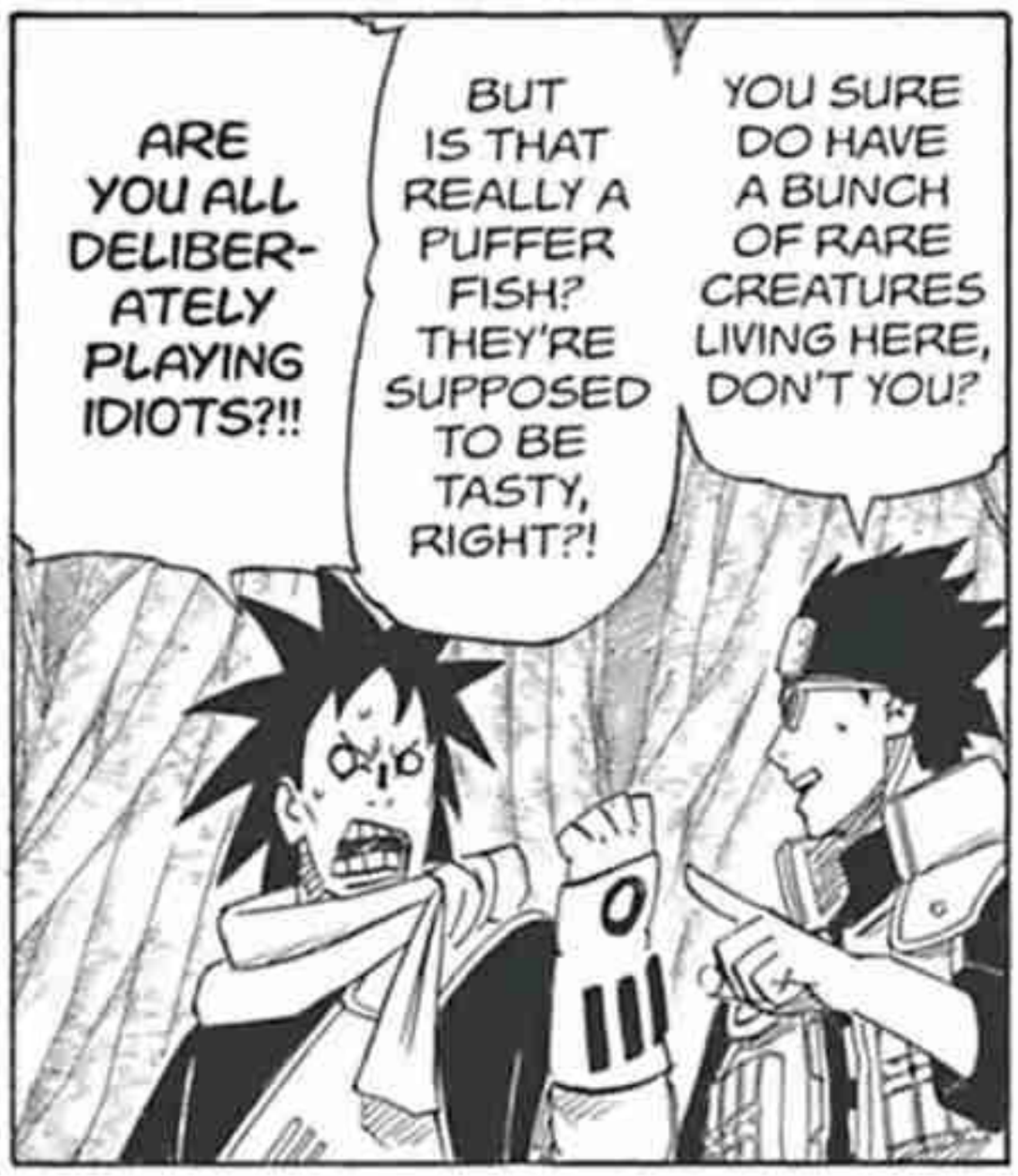
!!
WHAT ?!

KONOHA KAIGANSHO! KONOHA ROCK-CRUSHING SQUARE!!
WHAM
ARGH!!
WHAT?
CRAK
SPLISH
HUH?
WHIRL
TMP

Number 506: Guy vs. Kisame!!

...A PUFFER FISH?!!





GRR, SAMEHADA ...

!!
WHEEEEN

!
BUT HOW DID HE MANAGE TO ENTER THIS PLACE?!
I BELIEVE HE'S THE SHARK MAN THAT WAS PAIRED WITH ITACHI... ALTHOUGH HE APPEARS TO BE QUITE DEBILITATED...

SPLASH

ZOT
!!

CHAK
SLOSH

SKREE ...
I SEE, I SEE... UH-HUH, HE FORCED YOU...?

TAK
HE ESCAPED INTO THE WATER! HE'S A SUITON USER...
I KNOW!!
TAK

HA HA HA... HEY NOW! YOUR AFFECTION IS A BIT ROUGH ♪
BUT WHAT CAN I SAY, I'M SO POPULAR, LIFE'S TOUGH ♪
NAK NAK

WHY IS IT THAT THE STRONGER THEY ARE, THE DENSER?!
?!
WATCH OUT, BEE!! HE'S STEALING YOUR CHAKRA!!
SPLOSH SPLOSH SPLOSH

WOOOW...

?!!
DNK
WHEE...
SHOOF
SPLISH
SPLOOSH

THWK

KONOHA HURRICANE!!

WATER STYLE! SHARK BOMB!!

ZWOP

UGH!

FWP FWP

SPLAT

THD

SPLASH

WEEEEN

GAH, HE'S GETTING AWAY!

WHOP

!!

?!

IF HE GETS OUTSIDE OF THE BARRIER AROUND THIS ISLAND, IT'S ALL OVER!

WE'VE GOT TO BRING HIM DOWN BEFORE THAT OR EVEN I WON'T BE ABLE TO SENSE HIM!

HE'S FAST!!

SWOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

WOOS

I'LL STOP HIM!!

EIGHT INNER GATES! SIXTH GATE OF JOY... OPEN!!!!

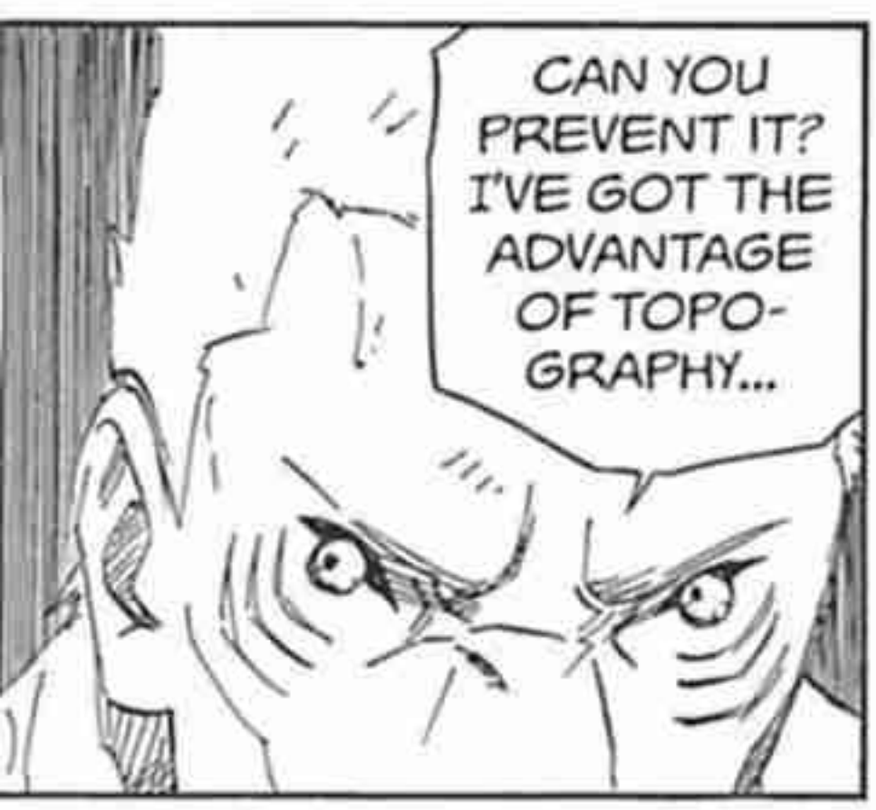
WHEE...
...BUT MAYBE WE CAN STILL STOP HIM!
TOO MUCH CHAKRA HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM YOU!!
...NARUTO AND YAMATO ARE BEHIND THIS WATERFALL, RIGHT?!
SKREE ...
BEE, YOU ALL RIGHT?!
I'M OKAY ♪ I'LL BOUNCE BACK RIGHT AWAY...
...
鉄

YOU MUST BE MORE CAREFUL WITH POWER CONTROL!
I TWISTED MY ANKLE, YA KNOW...
OWW...
BO
OF
KUCHIYOSE SUMMON-ING!!
ALL RIGHT... LET'S GO!
SHUP
I'M GOING TO BORROW YOUR BACK!!
SK RUNCH
TAK
I WAS GOING TO SAY LONG TIME NO SEE, BUT MIDAIR?!

ZW SH
WAAAH...!
KRAK-KRAK-KRAK
WHOA!!
100M
KUCHIYOSE SUMMONING!!
BOOF
KLUNK
KLUNK
?!
WAH!
CHOMP
CHOMP
!
SSH
ZWOO...

GULP

SPLASH



THD-THD-THD-THD-THD

WATER STYLE! 1,000 HUNGRY SHARKS !!

ASAKUJAKU!!

THUD-THUD-THUD-THUD-THUD-THUD-THUD-THUD

I CAN'T TELL WHICH SHARK IT IS ANYMORE!!

THUD-THUD-THUD-THUD

SH

IN WHICH CASE.....!!

SPLISH

YOUR FIST MOVES THROUGH THE AIR SO FAST THAT THE FRICTION CAUSES FLAMES TO ERUPT...

YOU REALLY ARE A BEAST... A SHINOBI THIS SKILLED IN TAIJUTSU IS RARE! ALTHOUGH I HAVE KNOWN TWO OTHERS...

A TAIJUTSU THAT DESTROYS ONE'S OPPONENT VIA BOTH THOSE FLAMES AND THE SHOCK WAVE OF PUNCHED AIR!

THIS NEXT TAIJUTSU IS A SPECIAL SINGLE-BLOW ATTACK THAT EVEN MY LAST MOVE DOESN'T COME CLOSE TO!!

PERHAPS I AM A BEAST... A BLUE BEAST!

HARDLY ANYONE HAS EVER SEEN IT...

IMPRESSIVE, THAT HIS BLUE CHAKRA PUSHES ASIDE THE WATER...

VVVO

SEVENTH GATE OF SHOCK... OPEN!!!

OOSH

I'VE GOT TO EXPAND THE BLAST RADIUS FURTHER!!

STILL TOO MANY... IT CAN'T BE HELPED ...

WHERE'S THE SCROLL?!

BUBBLE

...GET BY EITHER, EH... VERY WELL, I'LL LET THEM TEAR YOU APART!

NOT GOING TO LET THE UNDER-WATER SHARKS...

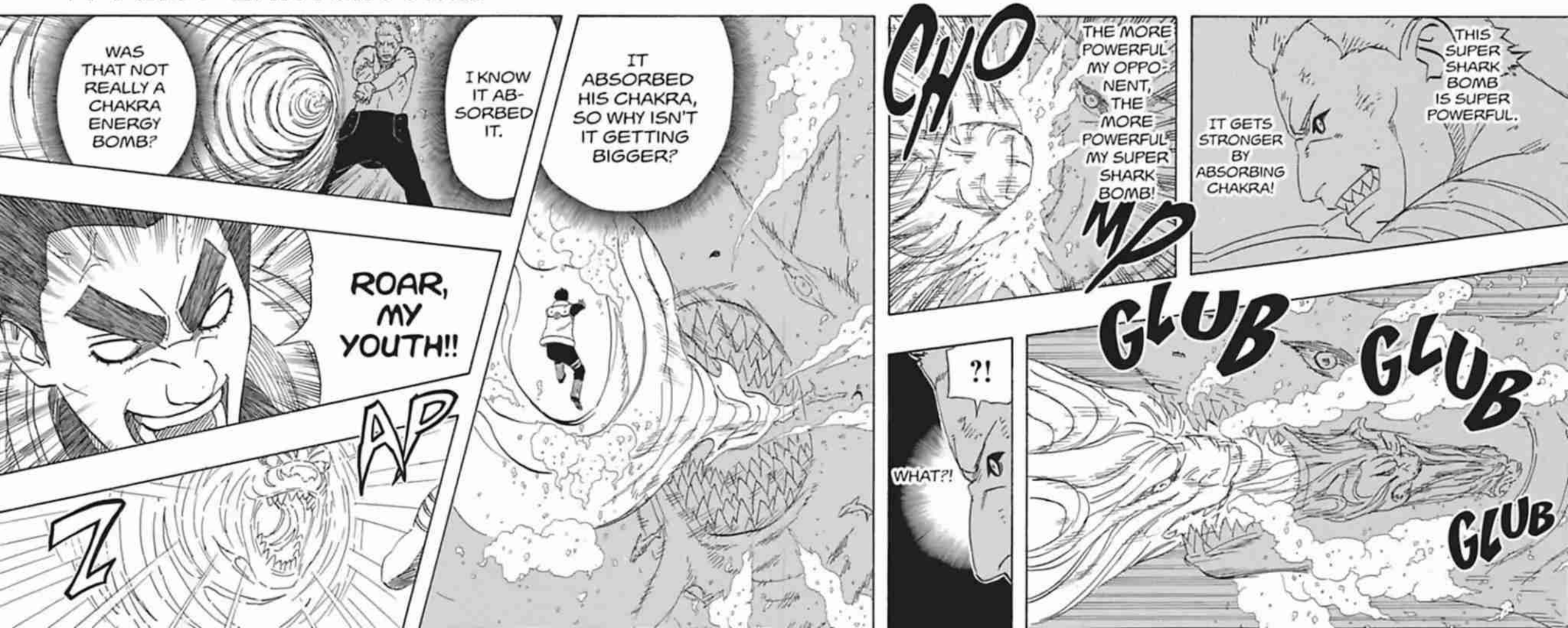
SPLOOSH

FLIP
OH!
WATER STYLE! SUPER SHARK BOMB !!!

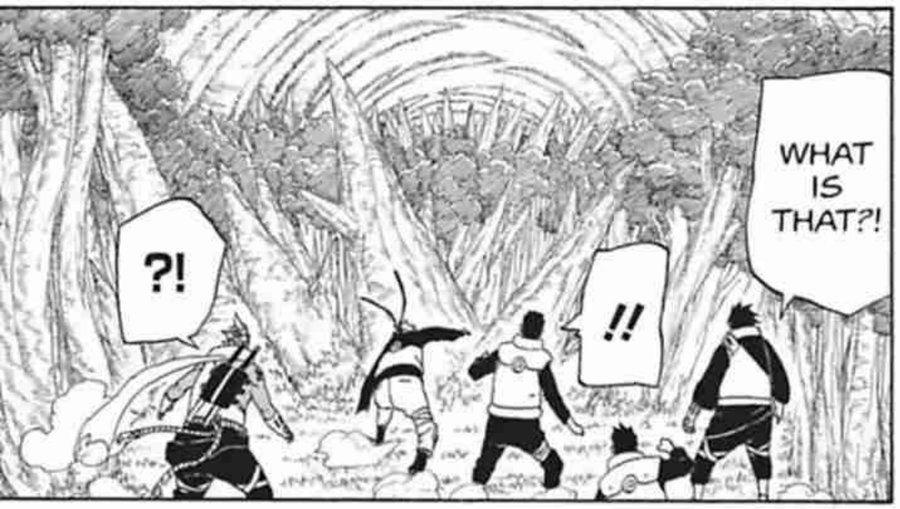
WAP
HIRUDORA!!

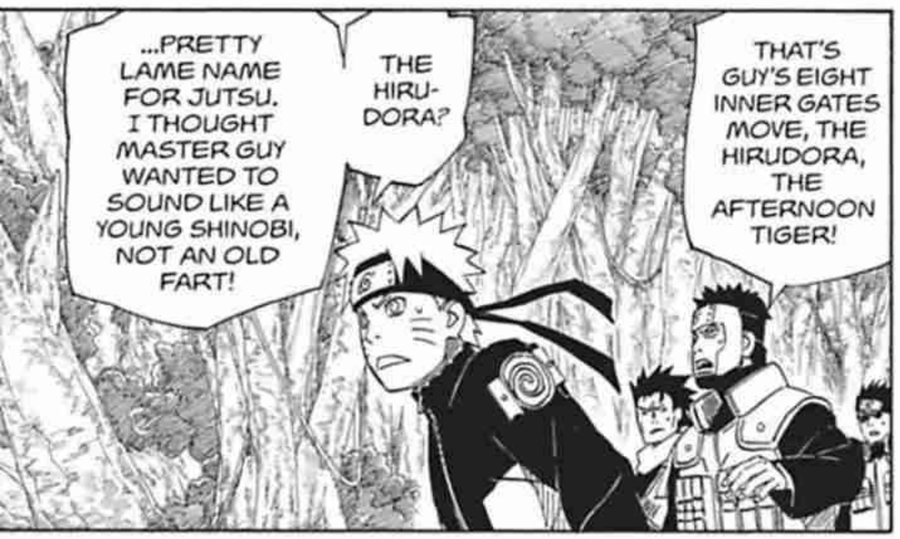
Number 507:
A False Existence...!!

Number 507: A False Existence...!!



SCRPEEECH

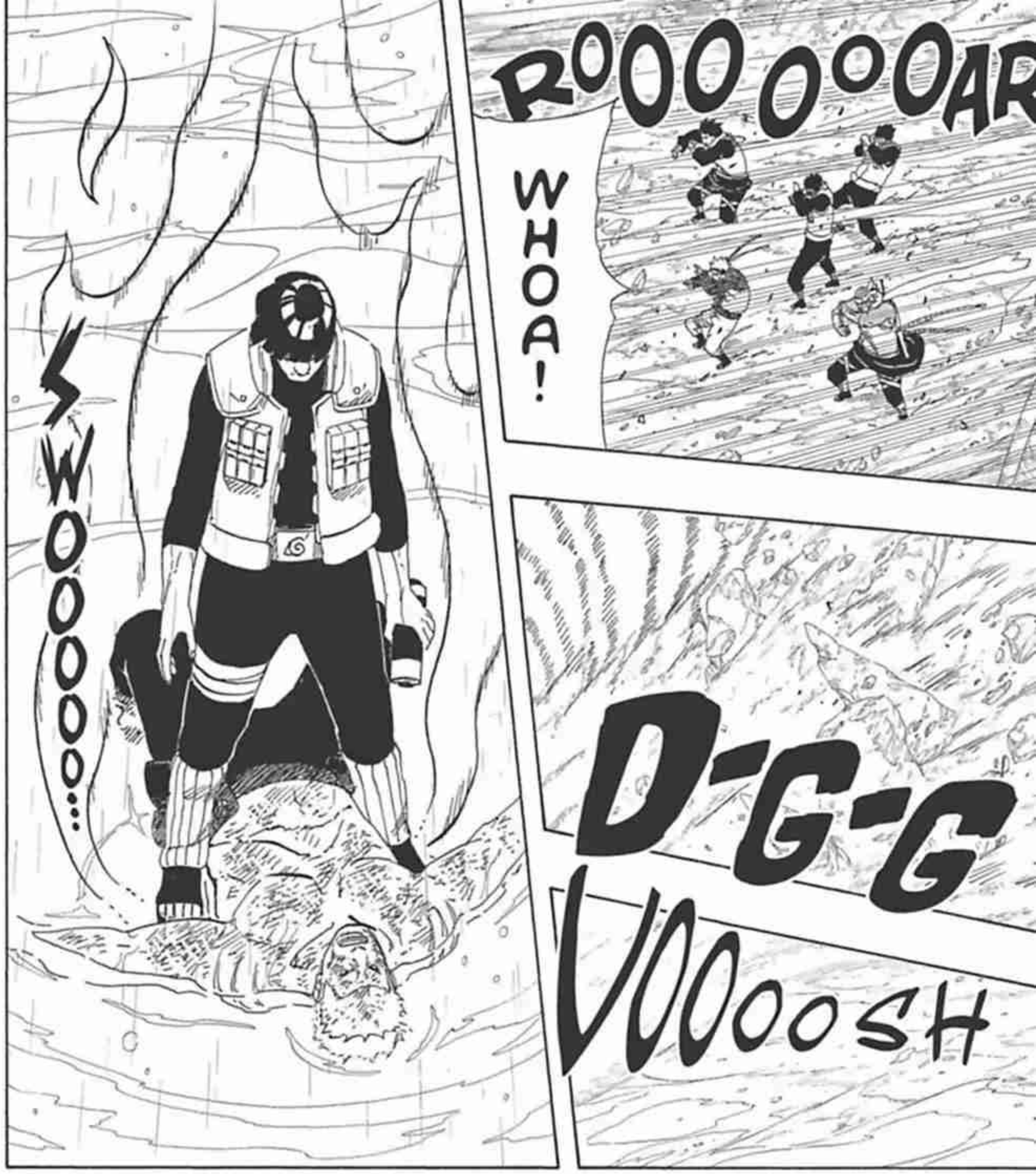

?!
!!
WHAT IS THAT?!


...PRETTY LAME NAME FOR JUTSU. I THOUGHT MASTER GUY WANTED TO SOUND LIKE A YOUNG SHINOBI, NOT AN OLD FART!
THE HIRU-DORA?
THAT'S GUY'S EIGHT INNER GATES MOVE, THE HIRUDORA, THE AFTERNOON TIGER!

THE HIRUDORA HAS A WIDE BLAST RADIUS, AND IT'S ABOUT TO HIT! BRACE YOURSELVES!!
FSH
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE MAKING PHILO-SOPHICAL OBSERVA-TIONS!

KABOOOOM

VWWW
WHA ?!!


ROOOOOOAR
WHOA!
WOOOOOO...
D-G-G
VOOOSH

PLUS, WHAT'S... THIS BLUE AURA YOU'RE EMIT-TING...?
THAT JUTSU. IT WASN'T AN ENERGY BOMB.

DON'T MOVE...

THE AURA JUST COMES FROM MY EXERTION.

AND THIS AURA SURROUNDING ME ISN'T CHAKRA...

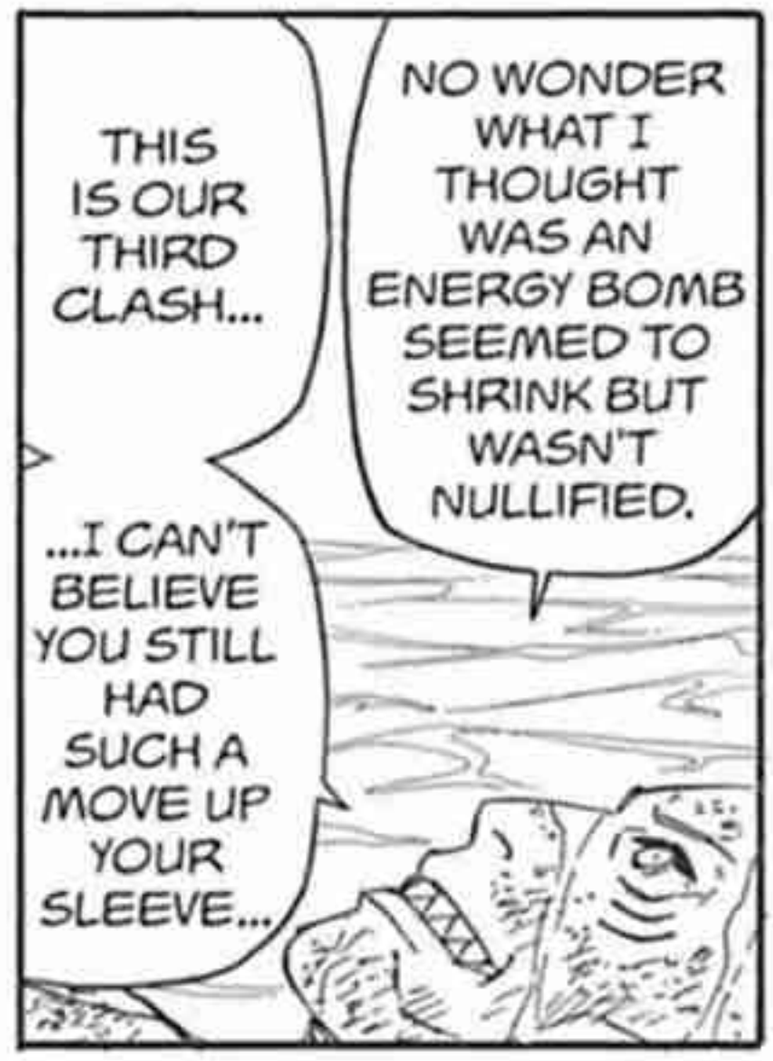
THOSE WHO OPEN THE SEVENTH GATE OF SHOCK PERSPIRE BLUE SWEAT!

IT'S JUST A PLAIN OLD SUPER PUNCH.

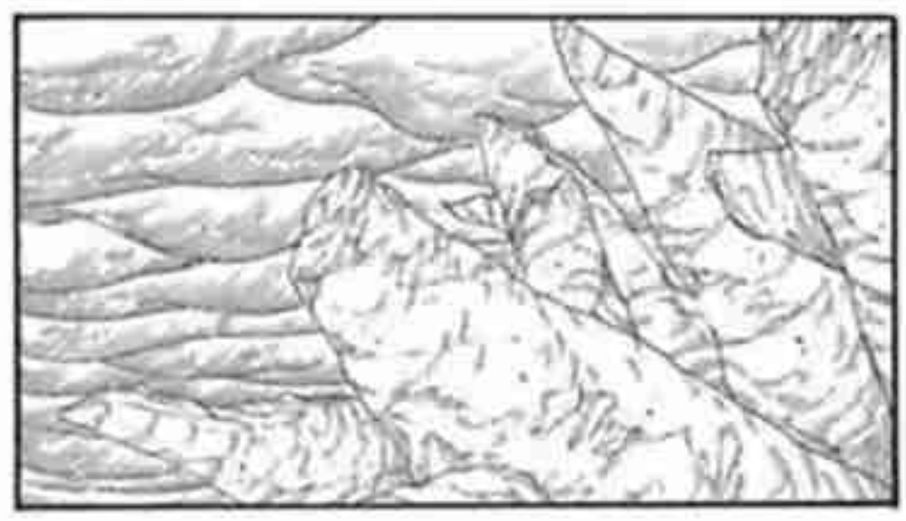
THE HIRUDORA IS A TAIJUTSU, NOT A NINJUTSU THAT USES CHAKRA!

A FOCUSED BLAST OF PRESSURIZED AIR AIMED AT YOUR OPPONENT.

AFTER INITIAL COMPRESSION, IT QUICKLY SPREADS OUTWARD.

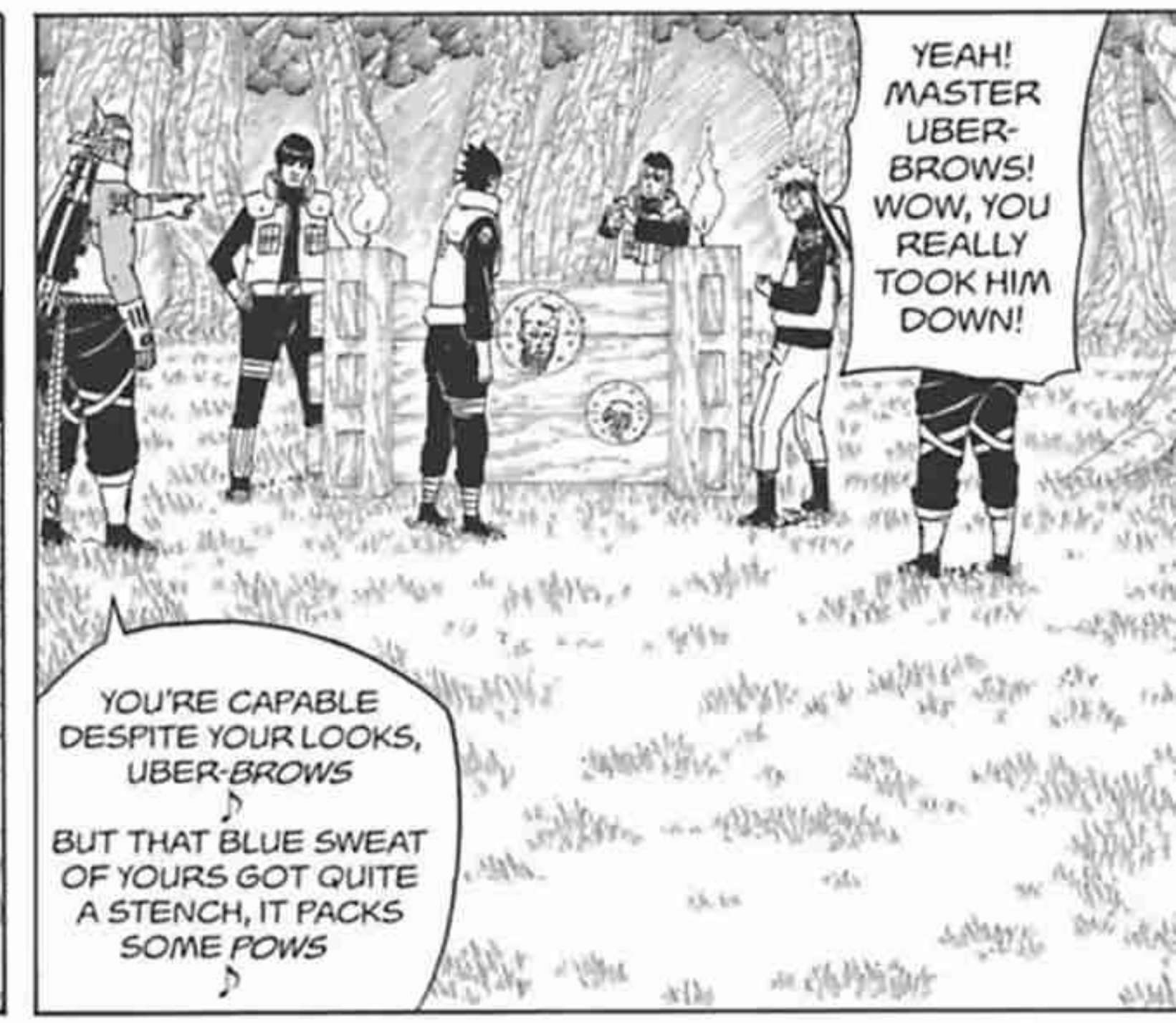


GAH!!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO MOVE!



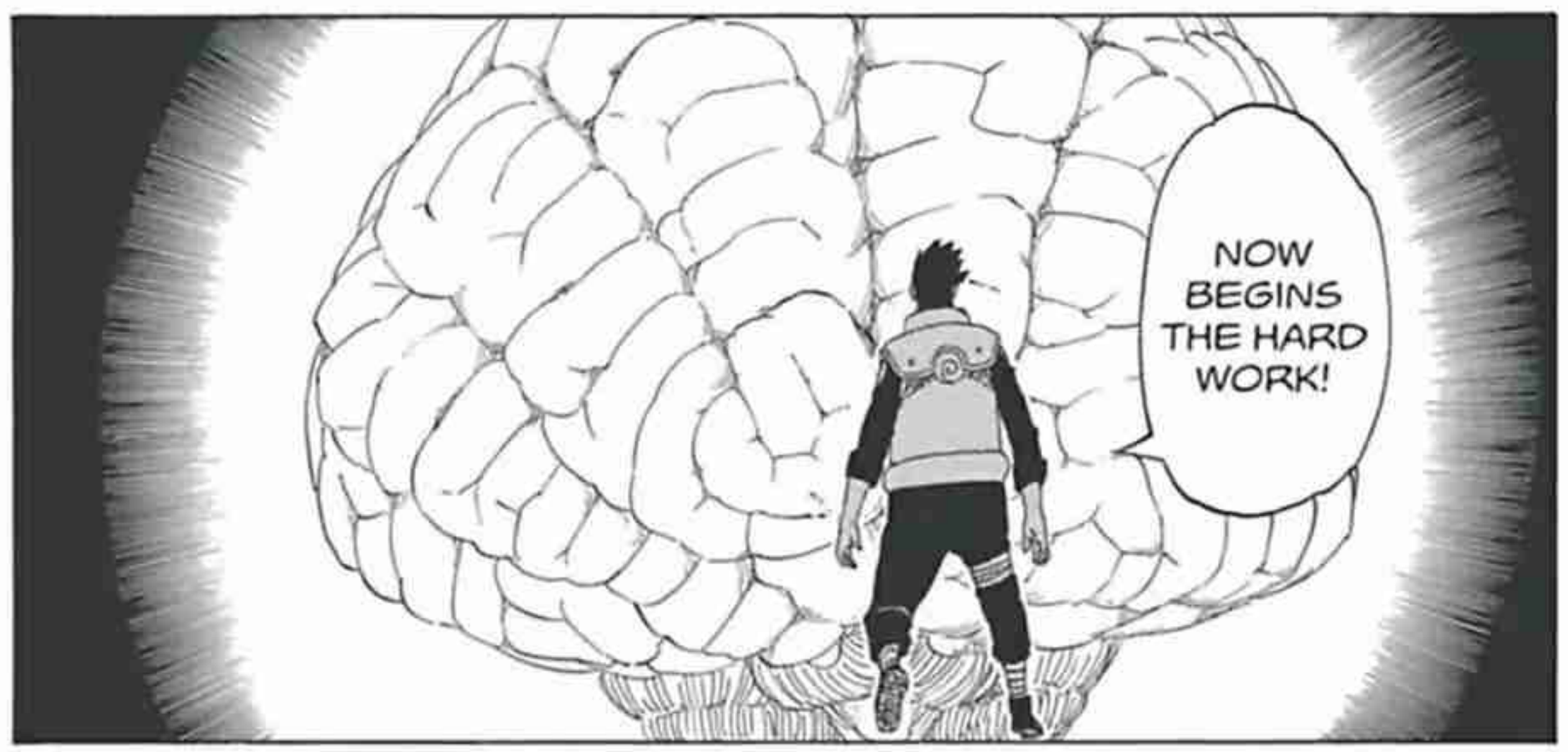
BAM!!

IF THIS GOES WELL, WE'LL HAVE THE AKATSUKI'S PLANS AND OTHER INFORMATION... EVEN THEIR LEADER'S IDENTITY.
FSH
I'M NOT AS ADEPT AS MISTER INOICHI, BUT I'M GOING IN FOR THE INTEL!


YEAH! MASTER UBER-BROWS! WOW, YOU REALLY TOOK HIM DOWN!
YOU'RE CAPABLE DESPITE YOUR LOOKS, UBER-BROWS ♪ BUT THAT BLUE SWEAT OF YOURS GOT QUITE A STENCH, IT PACKS SOME POWS ♪

SSH
WELL THEN...
DNK

HERE I GO!
FSH


NOW BEGINS THE HARD WORK!

ZWP

!

MISTER HOSHIGAKI.

SHF

DO NOT BE SOCIABLE.

WON'T YOU EAT WITH US?

!

THK

BUT WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF THE SAME MISSION... IT SHOULDN'T MATTER!

BESIDES, I BET THERE'S NOTHING WE COULD TALK ABOUT, BETWEEN US INTELLECTUALS AND OUR BODYGUARD MUSCLE.

SAID HE DOESN'T GET ALONG WITH US CIPHER CORPS EGGHEADS!

HEY, I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE HIM BE! HE WANTS IT THAT WAY.

YOUR MISSION IS TO DEFEND OUR CODE, NO MATTER WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

LISTEN UP, KISAME... PROTECT THEM, AND PROTECT THE ENCODED MISSIVE... MOST IMPORTANTLY... YOU MUST NOT LET ANY OF THE CIPHER CORPS FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS!

WHY KILL YOUR COMRADES?

I CANNOT AFFORD TO LET YOU, THE ENEMY, HAVE OUR CODE. THESE SHINOBI TALK TOO EASILY.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE INTEL IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN LIVES. YOU KNOW THAT.

FOR *COMPANION-KILLING* IS MY SPECIALTY... MY PERSONAL MISSION.

WH... Y...?

I POSTULATED THAT HE MIGHT GET CARELESS AROUND YOU, HIS SUBORDINATE... AND I WAS RIGHT.

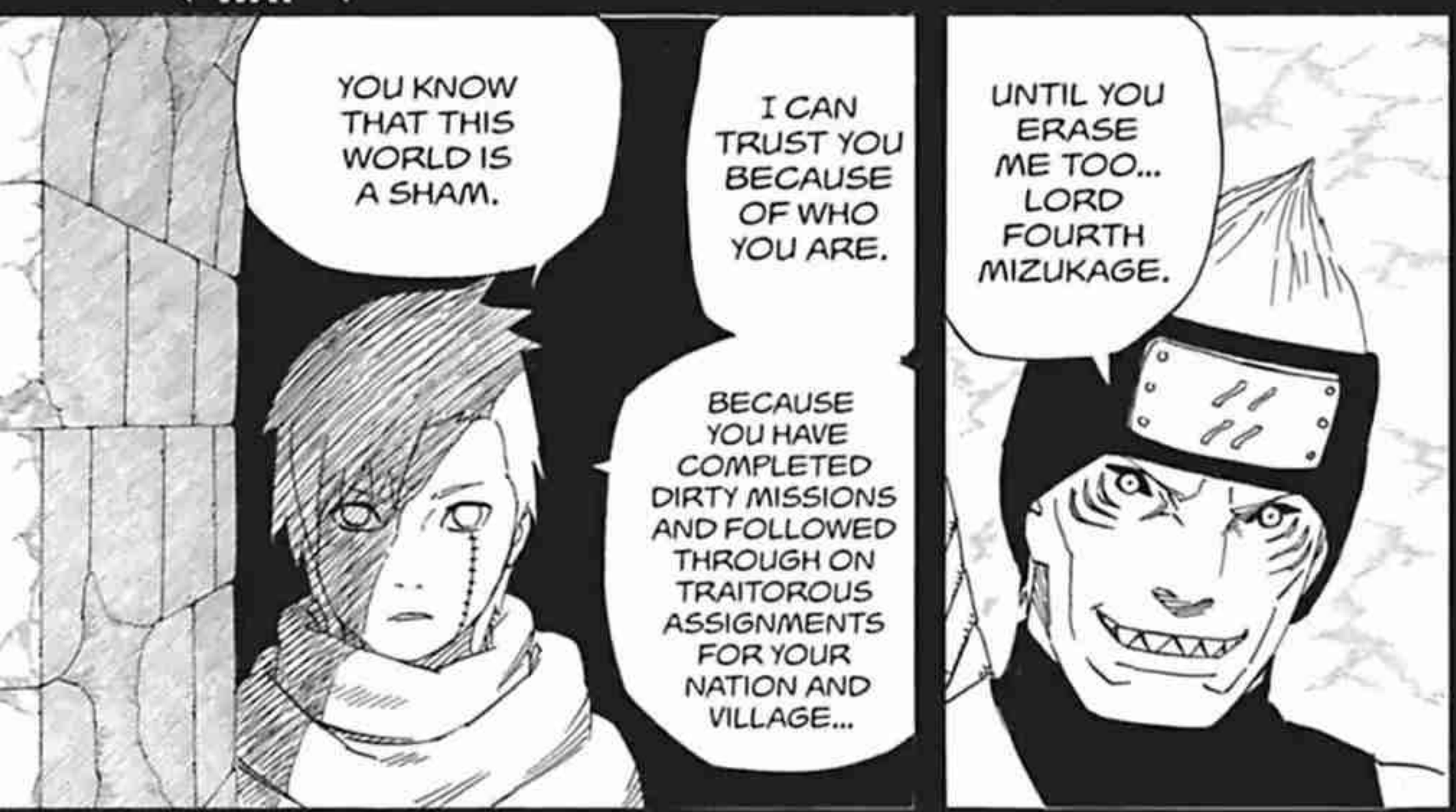
SHUP

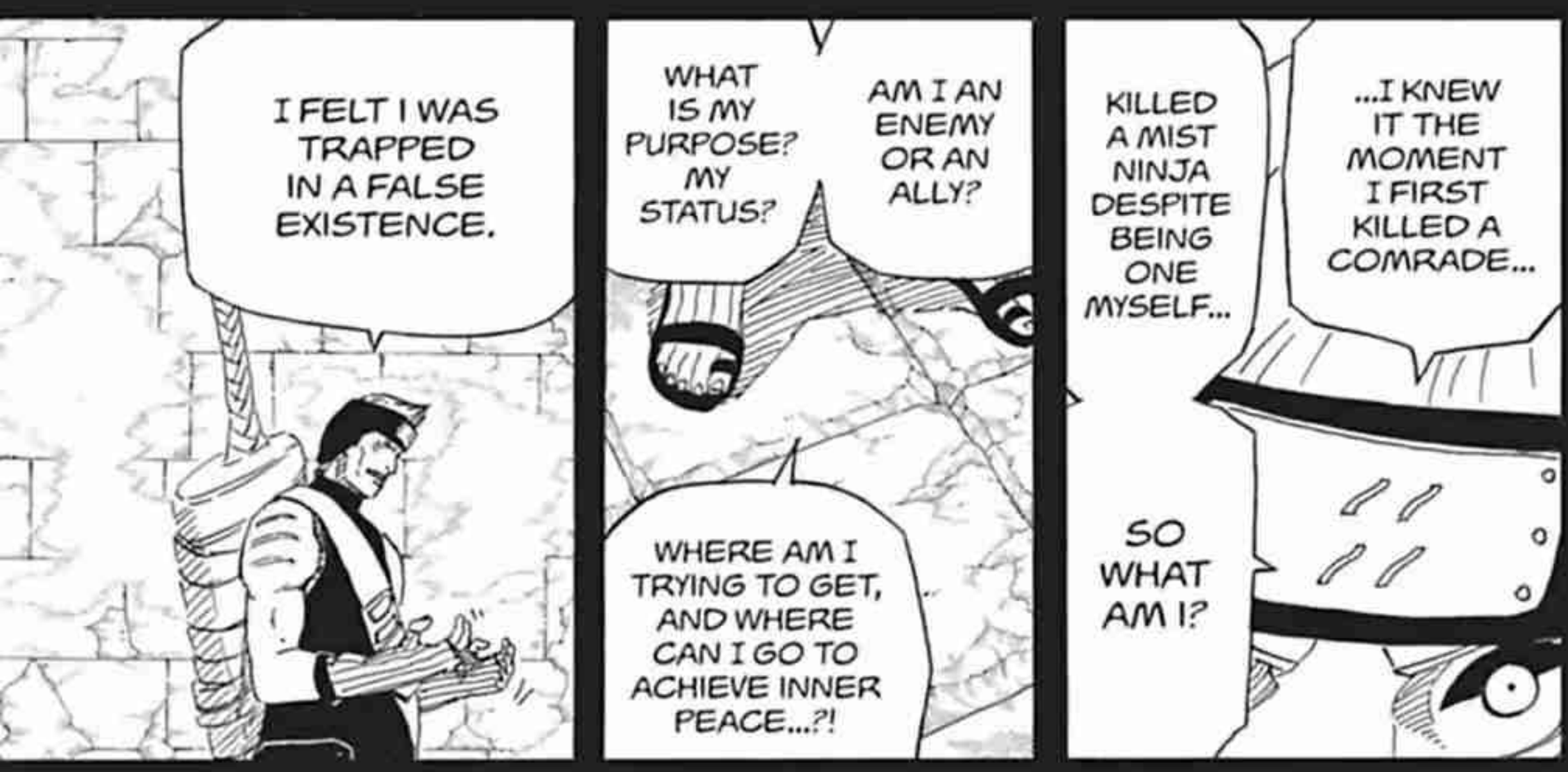
GOOD WORK, KISAME...

FROM THIS MOMENT ON, YOU ARE THE OWNER OF THE GREAT BLADE SAMEHADA...

...AND MY SUBORDINATE AS WELL.

HE WAS COLLUDING WITH THE ENEMY...


YOU KNOW THAT THIS WORLD IS A SHAM.
I CAN TRUST YOU BECAUSE OF WHO YOU ARE.
BECAUSE YOU HAVE COMPLETED DIRTY MISSIONS AND FOLLOWED THROUGH ON TRAITOROUS ASSIGNMENTS FOR YOUR NATION AND VILLAGE...
UNTIL YOU ERASE ME TOO... LORD FOURTH MIZUKAGE.


I FELT I WAS TRAPPED IN A FALSE EXISTENCE.
WHAT IS MY PURPOSE? MY STATUS?
AM I AN ENEMY OR AN ALLY?
WHERE AM I TRYING TO GET, AND WHERE CAN I GO TO ACHIEVE INNER PEACE...?!
KILLED A MIST NINJA DESPITE BEING ONE MYSELF...
...I KNEW IT THE MOMENT I FIRST KILLED A COMRADE...
SO WHAT AM I?

...!
SHUP

I WILL CREATE A PLACE WHERE YOU BELONG.

ALLOW ME TO FREE YOU FROM THE PAIN OF THOSE FALSE-HOODS.

YOU HAVE TOILED TO DEAL WITH AND DISPOSE OF YOUR COMRADES UP UNTIL NOW...

NOW JOIN ME AND BECOME MY COMRADE.

WE'LL START WITH THIS NATION.

KLAK

WHO ARE YOU?

...

THAT EYE... GLEAMING IN THE DARK...

SWOO

...

...BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE...

YOU SEEM TO TRUST ME...

THIS WORLD REALLY IS FULL OF LIES...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE FOURTH WAS MANIPULATED BY THE SHARINGAN...

...I SEE...
SO THE PERSON I THOUGHT WAS THE FOURTH MIZUKAGE WAS ACTUALLY YOU...?

...!!

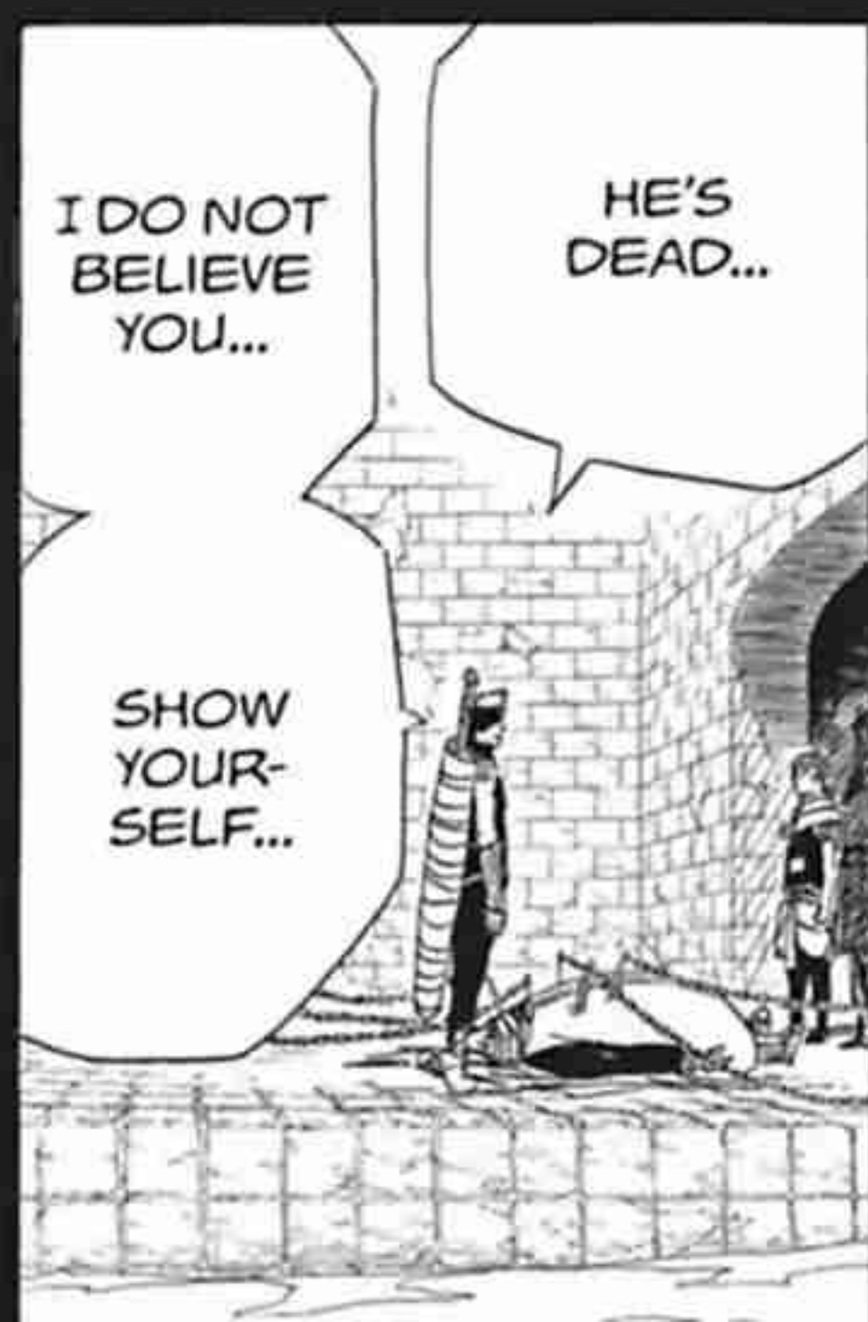
UCHIHA... MADARA.

WHO ARE YOU...?
OCULAR POWERS GREAT ENOUGH TO CONTROL THE MIZUKAGE, JINCHÛRIKI OF THREE TAILS...
GRRR

SHUP

!!

VERY WELL... YOU DECIDE WHETHER YOU WILL TRUST ME OR NOT.
SHUP


I DO NOT BELIEVE YOU...
HE'S DEAD...
SHOW YOUR-SELF...

WHIP

GAAAR !!!

CHOMP

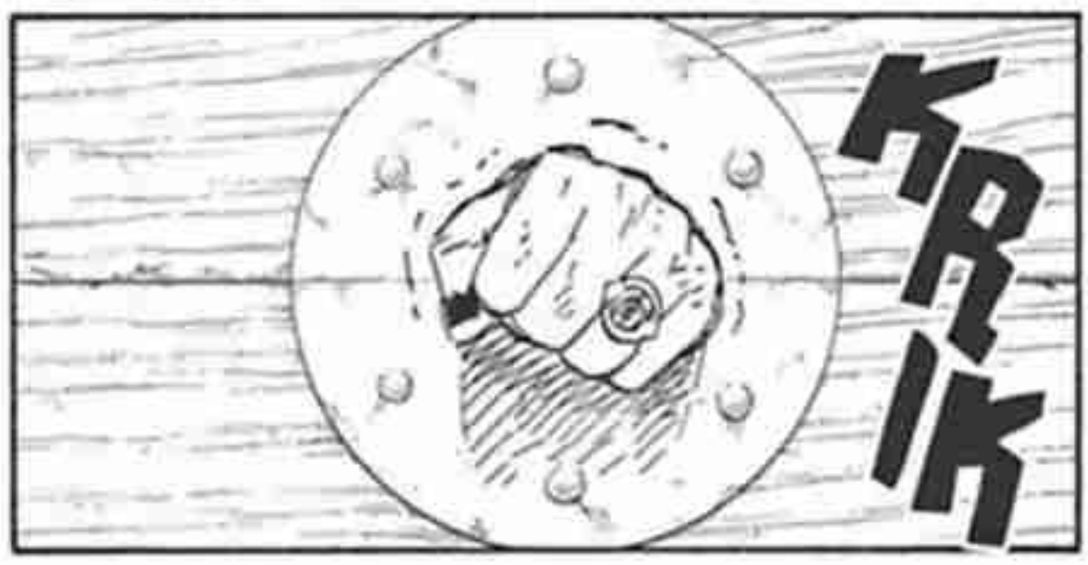
CLIP

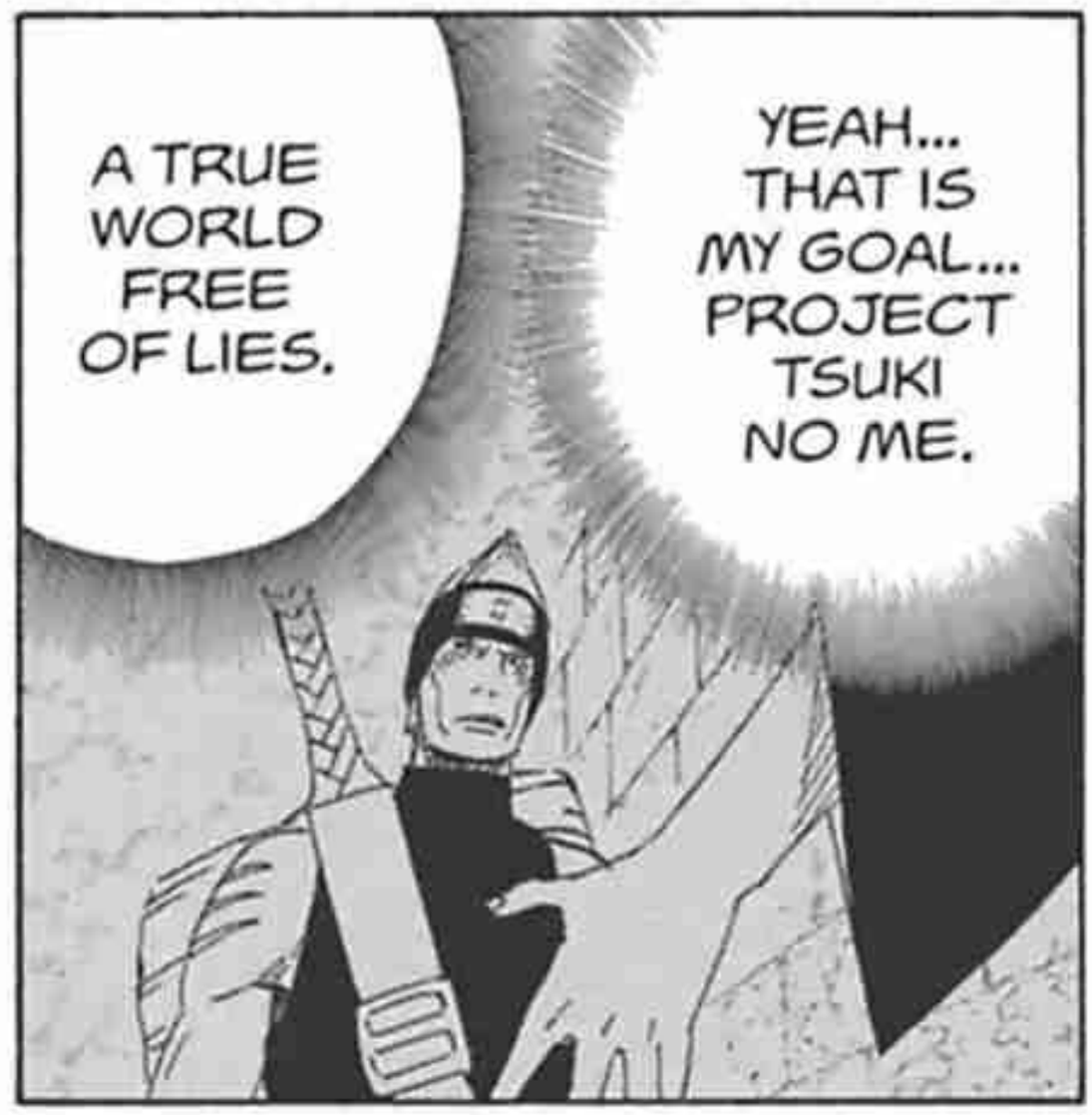
ARE YOU...? SERI-OUS...?

GWA-HA HA HA HA!!

HE WILLED HIMSELF AWAKE IN ORDER TO PREVENT ME FROM EXTRACTING INTEL!!

HE... BIT HIS OWN TONGUE!





KRAK-KRAK

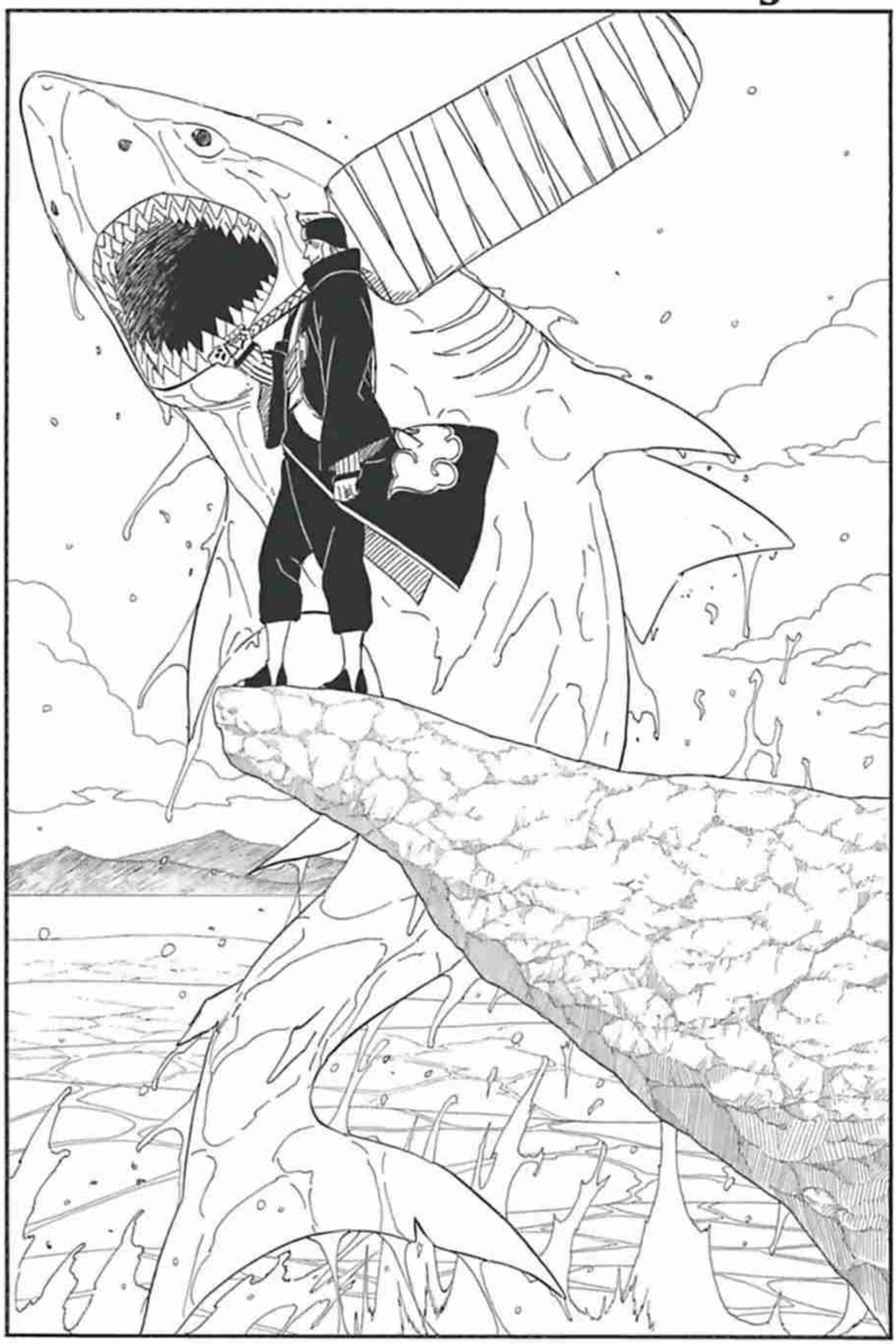
KRAK-KRAK

I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE GONE THERE...

RAAAWR !!!

NARUTO

Number 508: Shinobi Death Style



!!

RAAWR !!

!!

THUNK

THUD

WE NEED HIS INTEL!
PLEASE RECAPTURE HIM ALIVE! IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE!

PSH
SORE LOSER !!

...HE STILL HAS THIS MUCH STRENGTH LEFT?!
BUT I WAS SUPPRESSING HIS CHAKRA WITH MY MOKUTON!

SHO
WATER PRISON JUTSU!!
TAK
OOOO

KLAP

KRIK
I KNOW !!

ZWUP

FWOO
SH

BLURB
BLURB
BLURB
I CAN'T REACH HIM THROUGH THIS WATER WALL...!!

KUCHIYOSE SUMMONING!!

!!

SWSH

BA

I'LL GRAB HIM!!

DON'T PANIC. HE STILL CAN'T DO ANYTHING.

THAT'S THE WATER PRISON JUTSU!

FSH

WOO

!!!

HAK HAK

...
WE ARE PARTNERS FROM THIS DAY ON.
YOU ARE CORRECT, ITACHI-SAN...
...
I HAVE HEARD RUMORS... YOU KILLED ALL YOUR FELLOW UCHIHA CLANSMEN...
AND YOU ARE UCHIHA ITACHI, FORMERLY OF KONOHA-GAKURE.
I AM HOSHIGAKI KISAME, FORMERLY OF KIRIGAKURE. I AM ONE OF THE SEVEN NINJA SWORDSMEN. PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
IT'S WHY I WANTED TO BE TEAMED WITH YOU IN THE AKATSUKI.
I THINK WE ARE ALIKE...
...

...ITACHI-SAN?

MURDERING YOUR OWN CLAN IS QUITE A FEELING, EH?

YOU'RE JUST A THUG. YOU GOT LOST IN THE MIST, ENDED UP HERE. YOU CAN'T EVEN CONTROL WHERE YOU'RE GOING.

...AM I WRONG?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ME. YOU DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND YOURSELF.

YOU TALK A LOT.

...

KLAK...

I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ME TO TEACH YOU SOME-THING.

READ THIS WAY
...
...BUT WITH SOME SHARKS, THE NUMBER OF EGGS THAT HATCH DIFFERS FROM THE NUMBER OF FRY THAT EMERGE FROM THEIR MOTHER'S BELLY.
DO YOU KNOW WHY?
MOST SHARKS ARE OVOVIVIPA-ROUS... THAT MEANS THEIR EGGS DEVELOP AND HATCH WITHIN THE FEMALE'S ABDOMEN BEFORE THE YOUNG ARE EXPELLED OUTSIDE...
FROM THE MOMENT THEY HATCH, THEY START EATING EACH OTHER INSIDE THEIR MOTHER'S UTERUS.
CANNI-BALISM...
...OF ME...
BE WARY...
STARTING TODAY, YOU TOO ARE AN AKATSUKI MEMBER, AND MY COMPANION.
...ALL THE OTHERS ARE JUST FOOD TO BE EATEN...
THE INTER-NECINE WARFARE BEGINS AS SOON AS THEY'RE BORN.

ZING

HEH HEH...

YOU BE WARY...

SWOO...

AND HOPE THAT WE EACH WILL NOT BE THE OTHER'S FINAL OPPONENT.

FOR NOW, LET'S BE FRIENDS AND HAVE SOME FUN, EH?

KLAK

NO...

...WE ARE HUMAN, NOT FISH.

SO PREPARE YOUR-SELF.

FSH

ANYONE WHO HAS EVER RAISED THEIR HAND AGAINST THEIR OWN BRETHREN, EVEN ONCE, NEVER DIES A DECENT DEATH.

HEH HEH... WHICH MEANS YOU AND I...

...ARE BOTH DEPRAVED.

DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT DEATH IS ABOUT?
ONE REALIZES ONE'S TRUE NATURE AT THE MOMENT OF DEATH.
WHIP

...YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT KIND OF HUMAN YOU ARE UNTIL THE VERY END...
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE...

KRAK-KRAK...

VIVIDE

...IT SEEMS THAT I WAS...
ITACHI-SAN...
HEH

...

CHOMP
RIP SNAP
...

SKOOSH...

...

CHOMP
CHOMP
...A DECENT HUMAN, AFTER ALL...
CHOMP

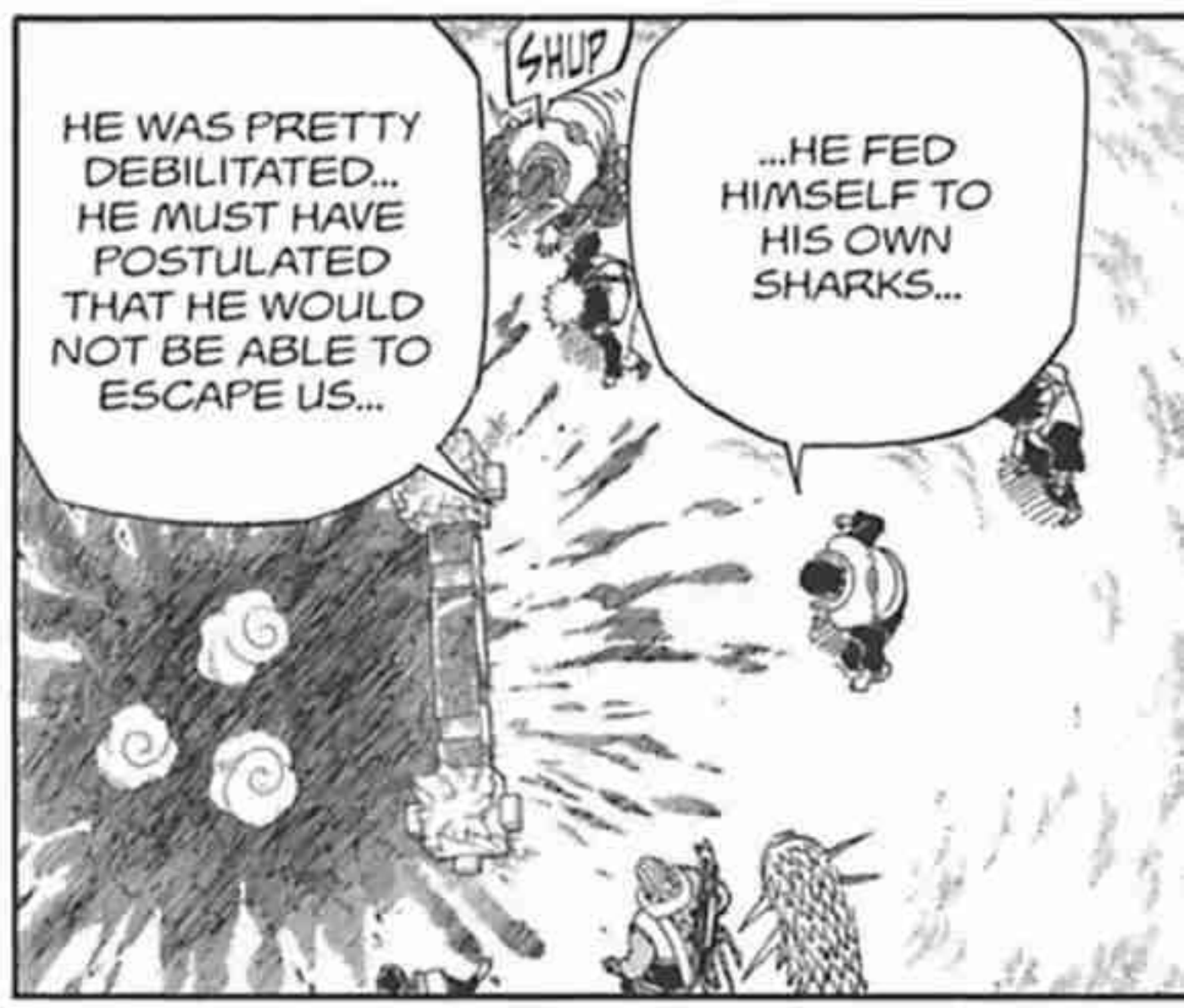
GUUUSH

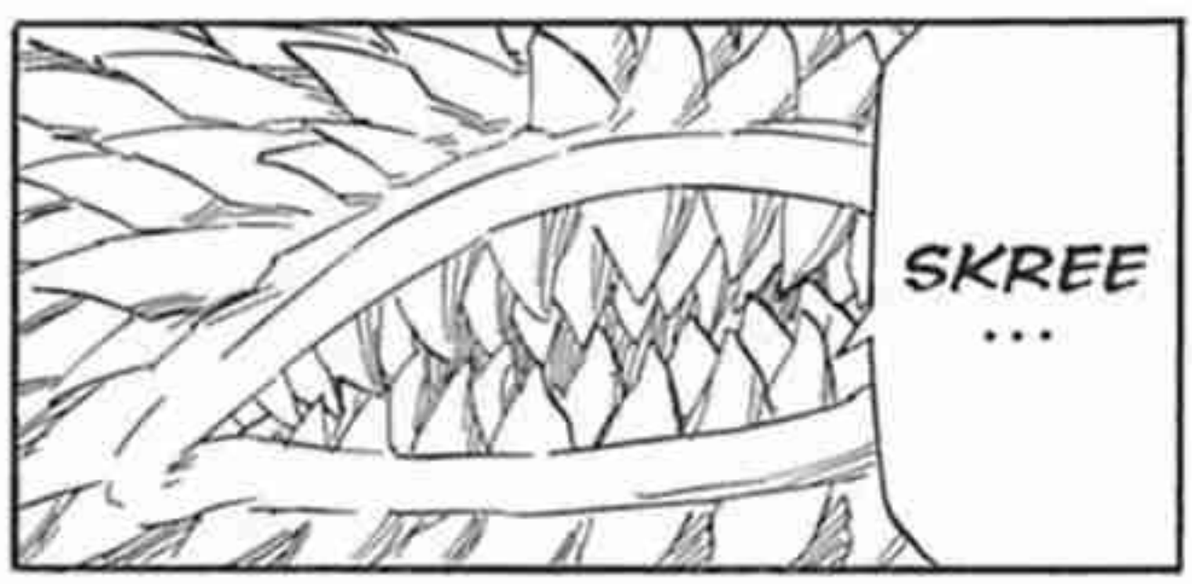
?!!

SPLAT
BOOF

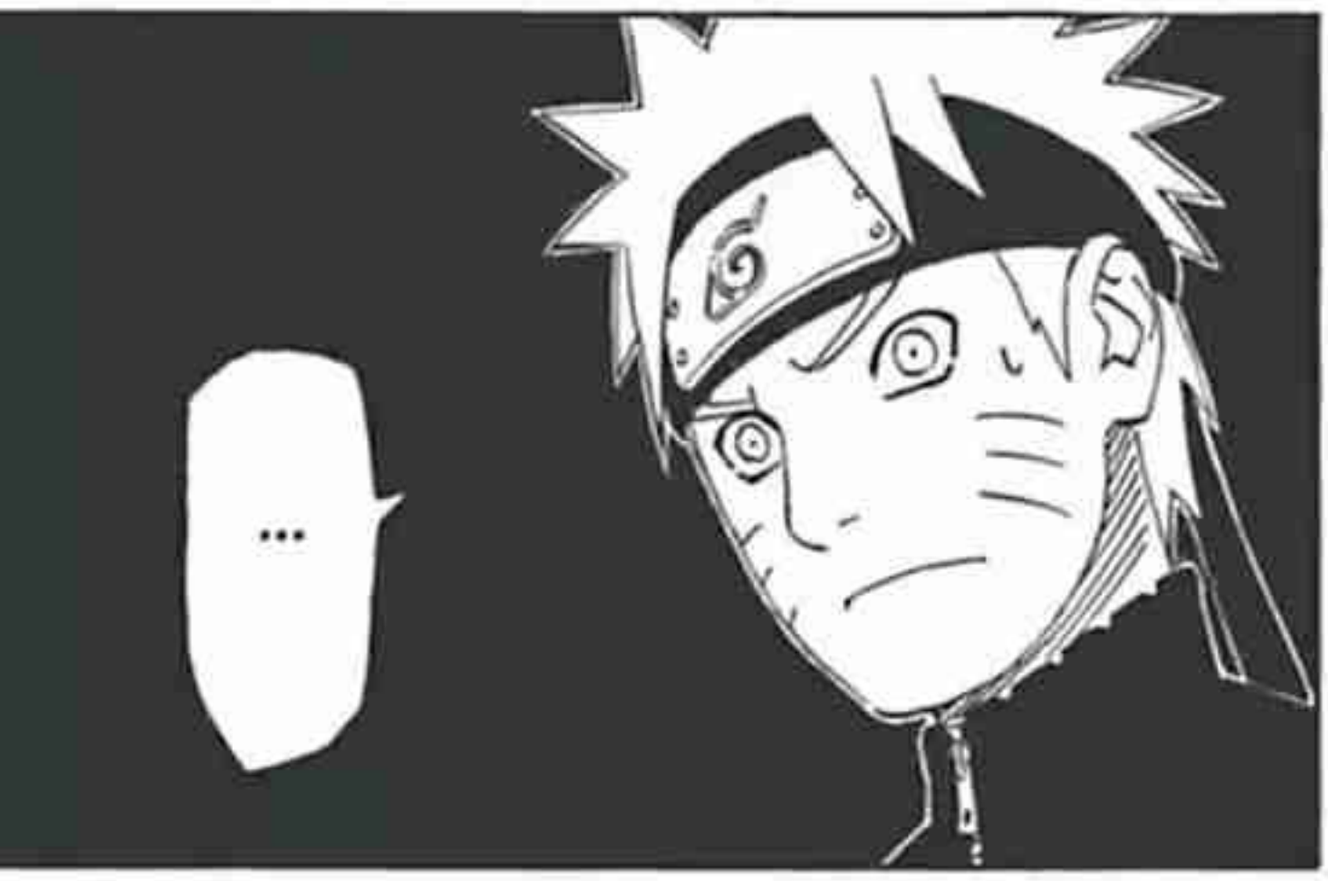
POP

...LONG FEARED AS THE SCOURGE OF THE MIST... I NEVER IMAGINED THIS WOULD BE HOSHIGAKI KISAME'S MANNER OF DEATH.
HE WAS AN AKATSUKI MEMBER POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BE PAIRED WITH ITACHI...

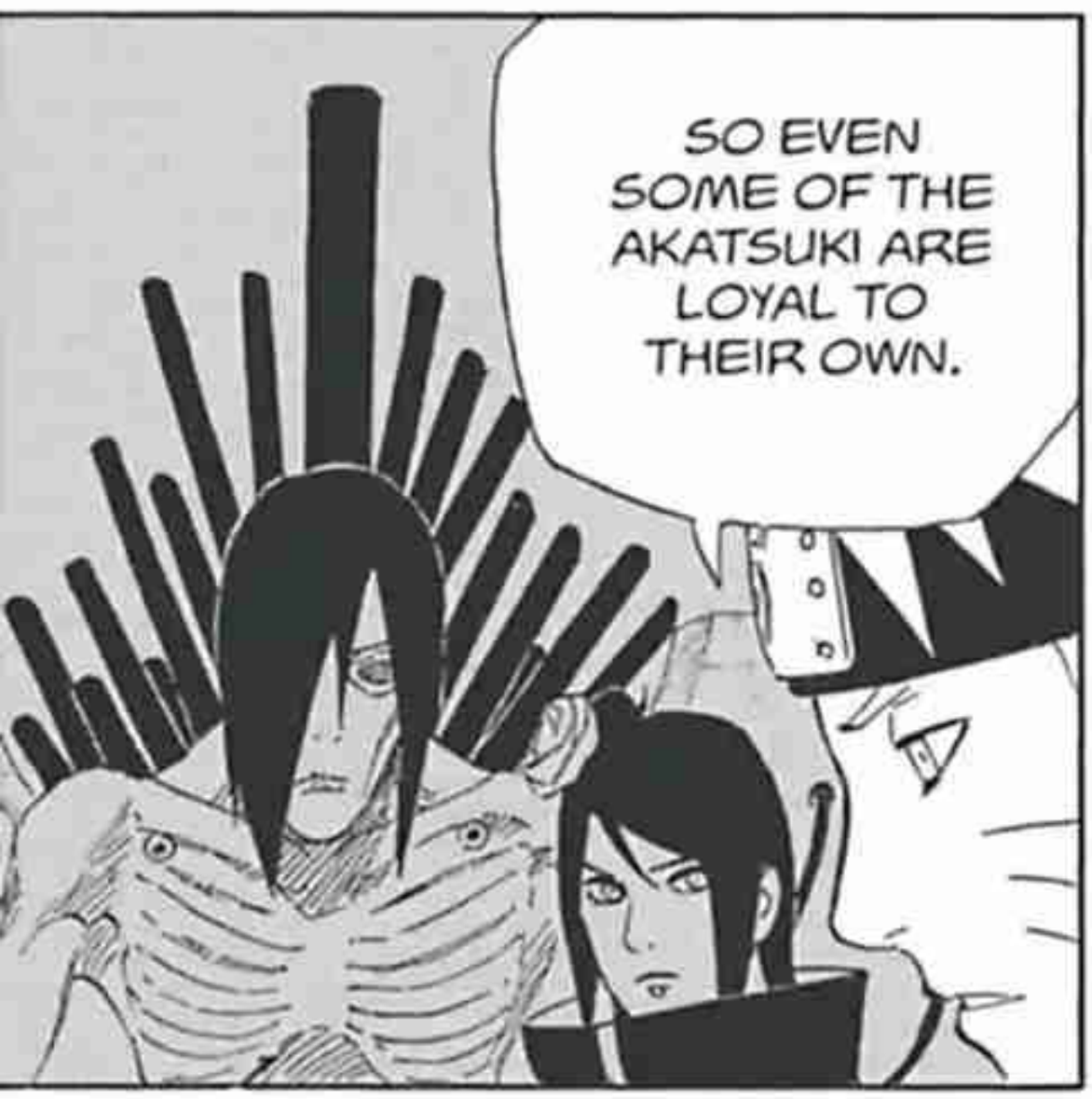

HE WAS PRETTY DEBILITATED... HE MUST HAVE POSTULATED THAT HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE US...
SHUP
...HE FED HIMSELF TO HIS OWN SHARKS...


SKREE ...

IS HE REALLY DEAD?
...


...

SO IT SEEMS THIS TIME, HE TRULY IS DEAD... FULLY ♪
THIS FELLA'S CRYING SORROWFULLY ♪
WOW. WOW


SO EVEN SOME OF THE AKATSUKI ARE LOYAL TO THEIR OWN.

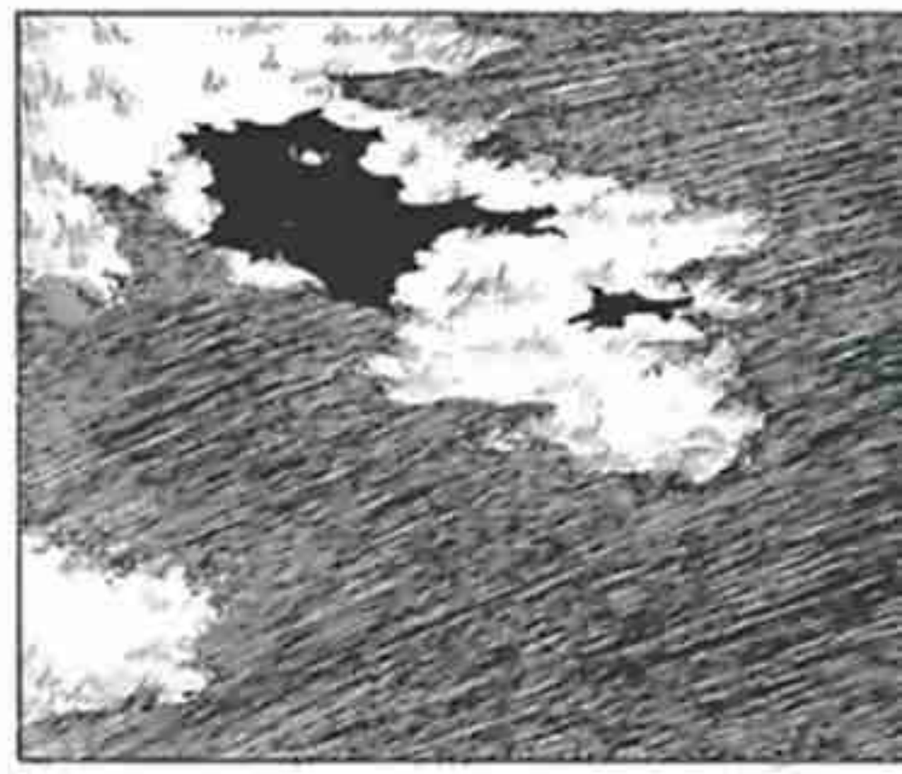
HE DIED INSTEAD OF GIVING UP INTEL ON HIS COMRADES.
BUT...

THE MEASURE OF A SHINOBI'S LIFE IS DETERMINED BY HIS MANNER OF DEATH!
THAT WAS ADMIRA-BLE, THOUGH HE WAS AN ENEMY!

!
WAP

I SWEAR TO **REMEMBER** YOU FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!

HOSHIGAKI KISAME!



!!

!!

!

!!

?!!

SWOOOOSH

...THE WATER PRISON JUTSU!!

UGH... THIS HEAVY WATER... IT'S...

WAH !!

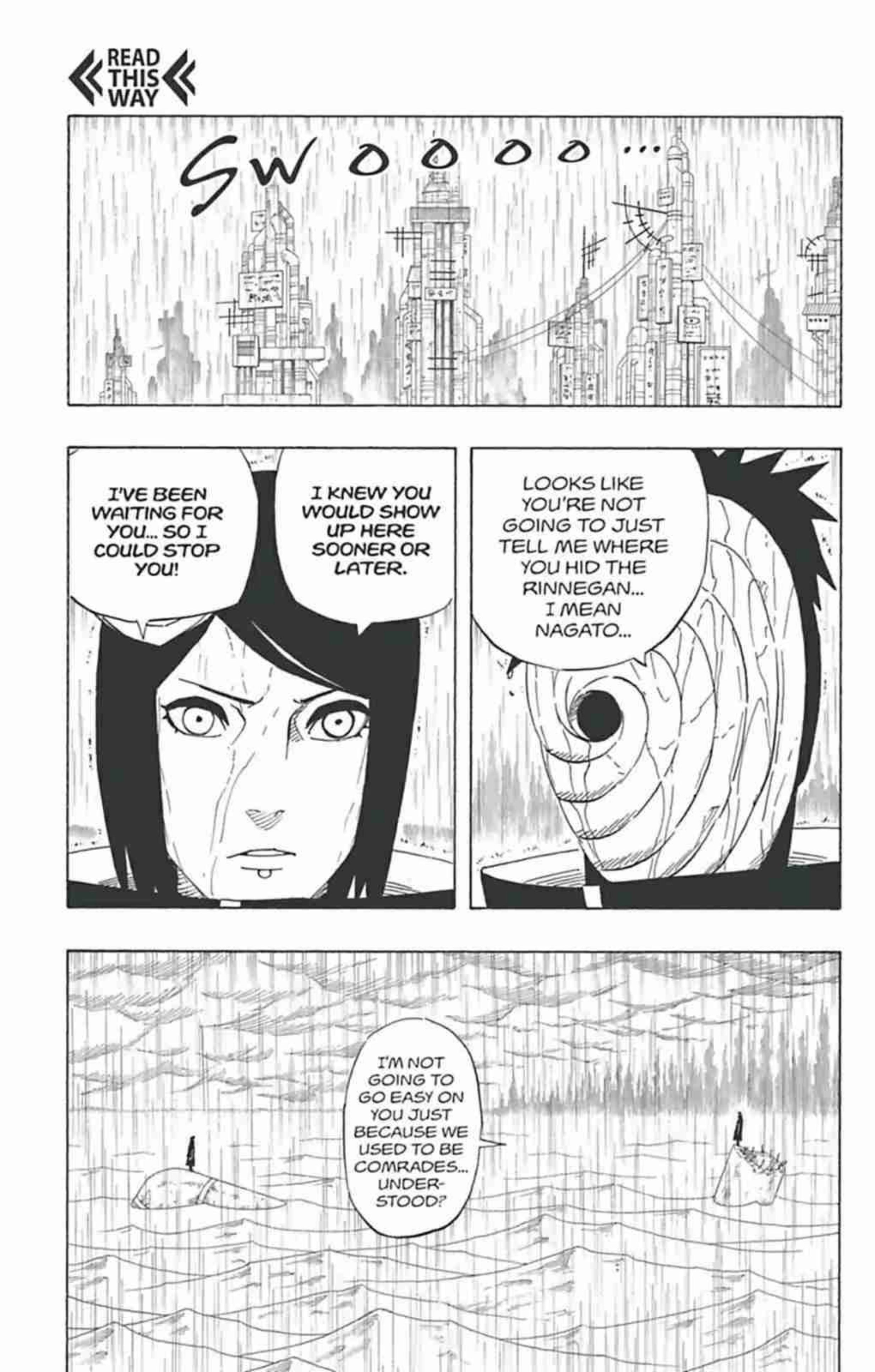
I CAN'T MOVE IN ALL THIS WATER!
WAH!! A SHARK'S GOT ME!!
RRRK

GAH! IT'S HEADED OUT TO SEA!
SWISH

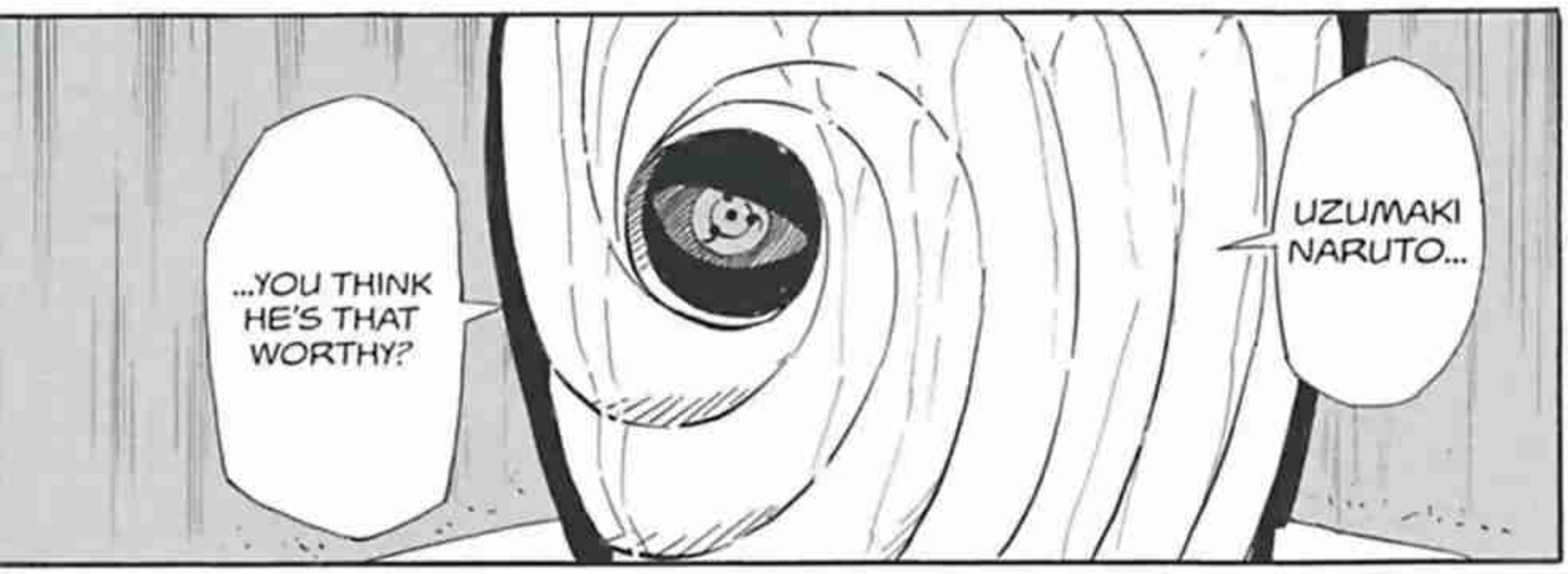
GLUB GLUB
I'M DRAINED FROM THE EIGHT GATES. GLUB...
FOOL, YA FOOL!
GUY!! HOLD ON!
CLOD

SSSS

SPLASH


READ THIS WAY
SWOOOO...
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU... SO I COULD STOP YOU!
I KNEW YOU WOULD SHOW UP HERE SOONER OR LATER.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO JUST TELL ME WHERE YOU HID THE RINNEGAN... I MEAN NAGATO...
I'M NOT GOING TO GO EASY ON YOU JUST BECAUSE WE USED TO BE COMRADES... UNDER-STOOD?

Number 509: Peace Viaduct

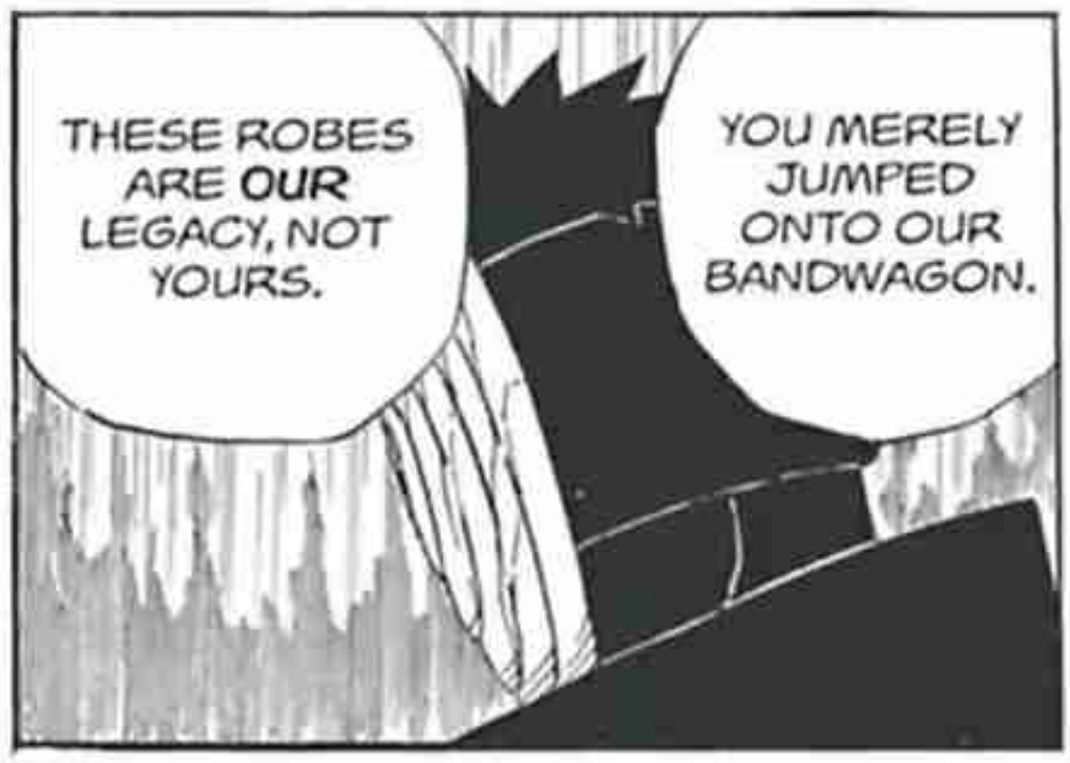


PRIIP PRIIP

...CAN CARRY FLOWERS OF HOPE!

PRIIP PRIIP

PRIIP PRIIP



AGAIN, IT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU.

AND THE RINNEGAN IS SOMETHING THAT AMEGAKURE SHINOBI NAGATO AWAKENED.

SINCE YOU'RE ABOUT TO DIE, I'LL ENLIGHTEN YOU.

HEH HEH... YOU'RE MISTAKEN ON TWO COUNTS.

SWSH SWSH

SWSH

HIS EYES ARE THIS NATION'S... AND THIS VILLAGE'S TREASURE!!

AND SECOND...

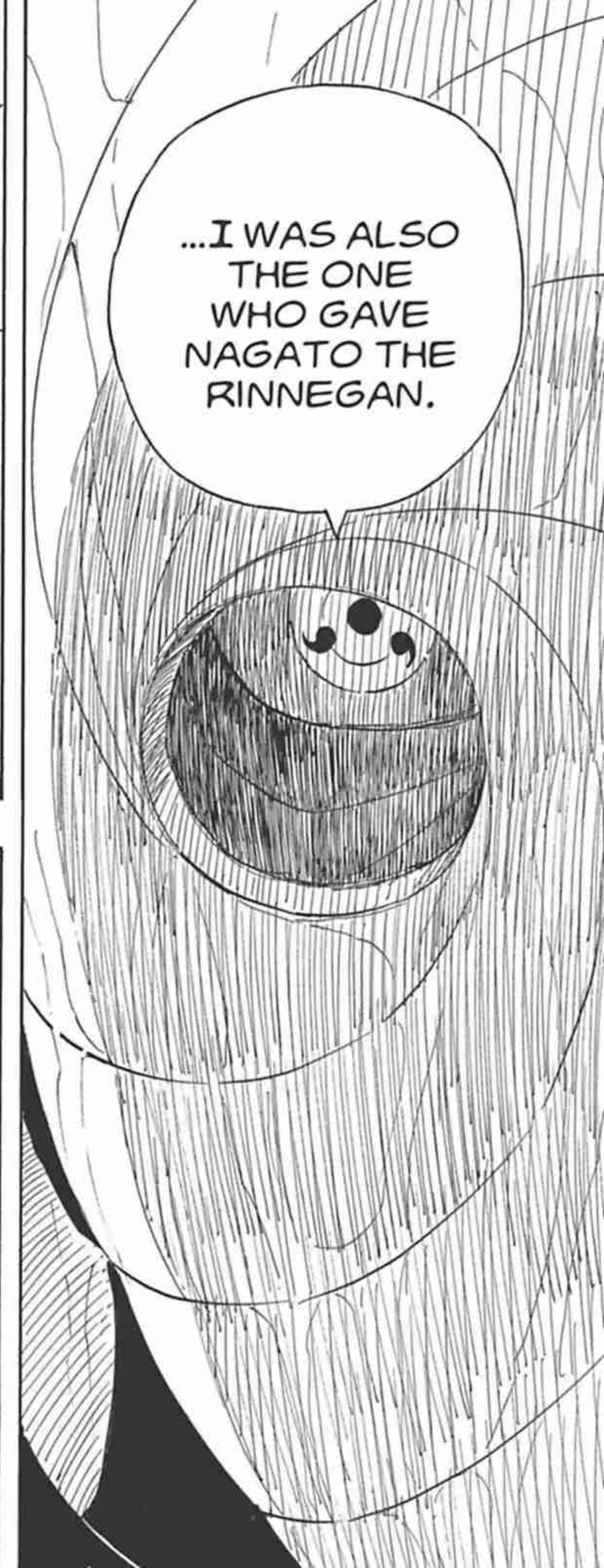
!!

FIRST, I ENCOURAGED AND PUSHED YAHIKO TO FORM THE AKATSUKI.

...?!

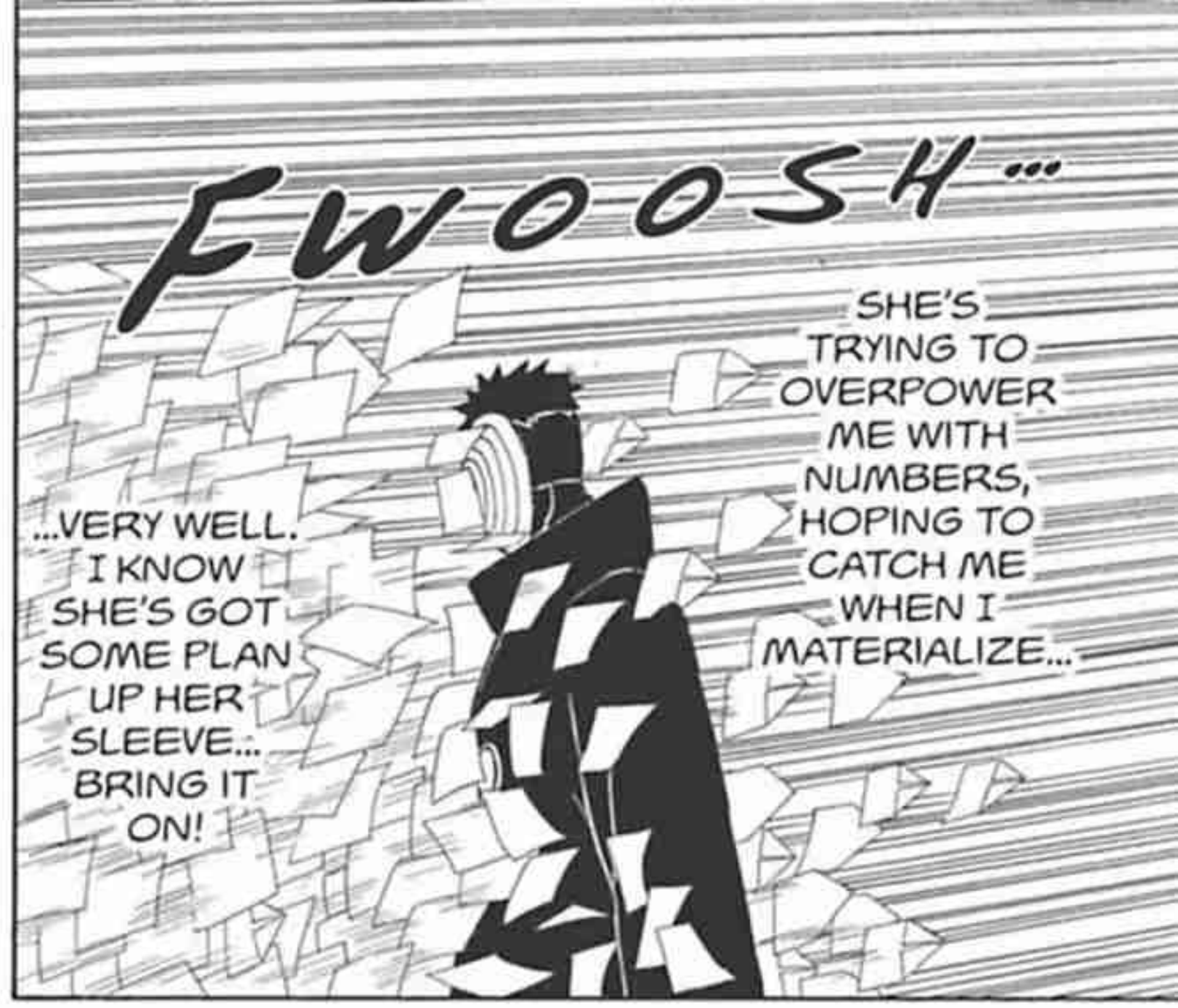
...?!!

SO PERHAPS IT WOULD BE MORE CORRECT FOR ME TO ASK FOR IT BACK...


...I WAS ALSO THE ONE WHO GAVE NAGATO THE RINNEGAN.

READ THIS WAY
DO NOT MOCK UCHIHA OCULAR POWERS, GIRLIE!
ONCE I CAPTURE YOU, I'LL HAVE MY WAY.
...EXCEPT FOR...THE LOCATION OF NAGATO'S RINNEGAN...
BUT NEVER MIND... IN MY OPINION, YOU'RE JUST AN IGNORANT LITTLE GIRL WHO KNOWS NOTHING...
FLAP
SWOSH
WHOOSH

THWP THWP THWP THWP


FWOOSH...
SHE'S TRYING TO OVERPOWER ME WITH NUMBERS, HOPING TO CATCH ME WHEN I MATERIALIZE...
...VERY WELL. I KNOW SHE'S GOT SOME PLAN UP HER SLEEVE... BRING IT ON!

YOU'RE FINISHED!
ZWOOO

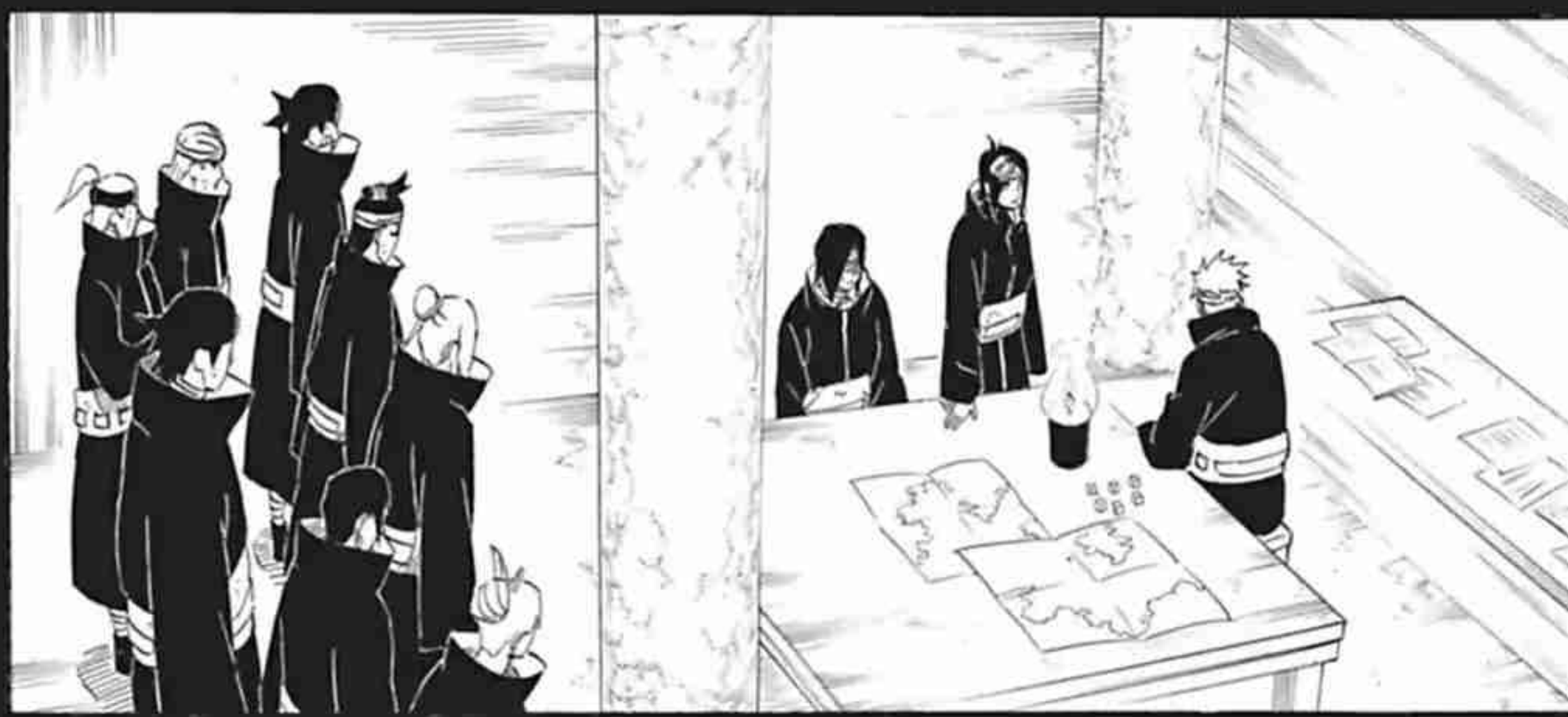
GAK

HERE SHE IS!!

THUP THUP THUP THUP

READ THIS WAY
!!
SHE MIXED IN EXPLOSIVE TAGS...!
I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME TO THE AFTER-LIFE...!

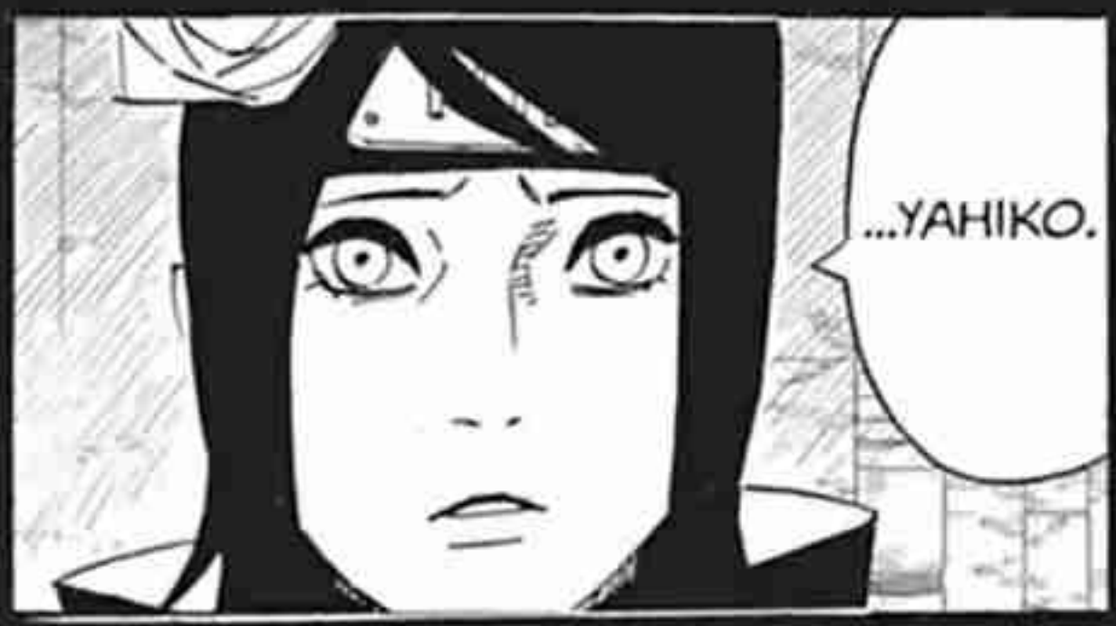
MORE MEMBERS WERE KILLED IN THE SEVENTH WARD.



READ THIS WAY
...
SWOO...
閃
I DON'T NEED A SEND-OFF!
GO TEND TO NAGATO'S WOUNDS INSTEAD.
BE CAREFUL, YAHIKO...
...
BUT YOU'RE NO LESS IMPOR-TANT...
FROM NOW ON, FOCUS ALL YOUR WORRYING ON HIM.
EVERYONE HERE IS HERE BECAUSE THEY ADORE YOU... EVEN NAGATO.
HE'S THE KEYSTONE OF THE AKATSUKI!!
THE MAN WHO IS GOING TO CHANGE THIS NATION AND THIS WORLD!

NAGATO...

...IS SOMEONE WHO IS GOING TO BECOME THE PEACE VIADUCT, OUR BRIDGE TO THE END OF ALL WARS.



MY ROLE IS TO MAKE SURE THAT HAPPENS. I AM A PILLAR THAT SUPPORTS THE VIADUCT SPAN OF THAT BRIDGE TO PEACE.

I TRULY FEEL THAT WAY.

IN THE PAST, I HATED THIS LAND THAT WAS CRYING ALL THE TIME.

BUT NOW...I WANT TO SAVE IT...

IT CONTINUES TO ENDURE MUCH PAIN.

THIS LAND IS CRYING, AS USUAL.

...YAHIKO!

SPROING

IT'S TOO MUCH LIKE THE CRYBABY I USED TO BE FOR ME TO LEAVE IT ALONE.

...BE CAREFUL.

SHUP

NAGATO...

THAT IS, HIS WILL ITSELF IS.

YAHIKO IS THE PEACE VIADUCT.

WE ALL BELIEVE IN YAHIKO!!

YES, SIR!

LET'S GO!

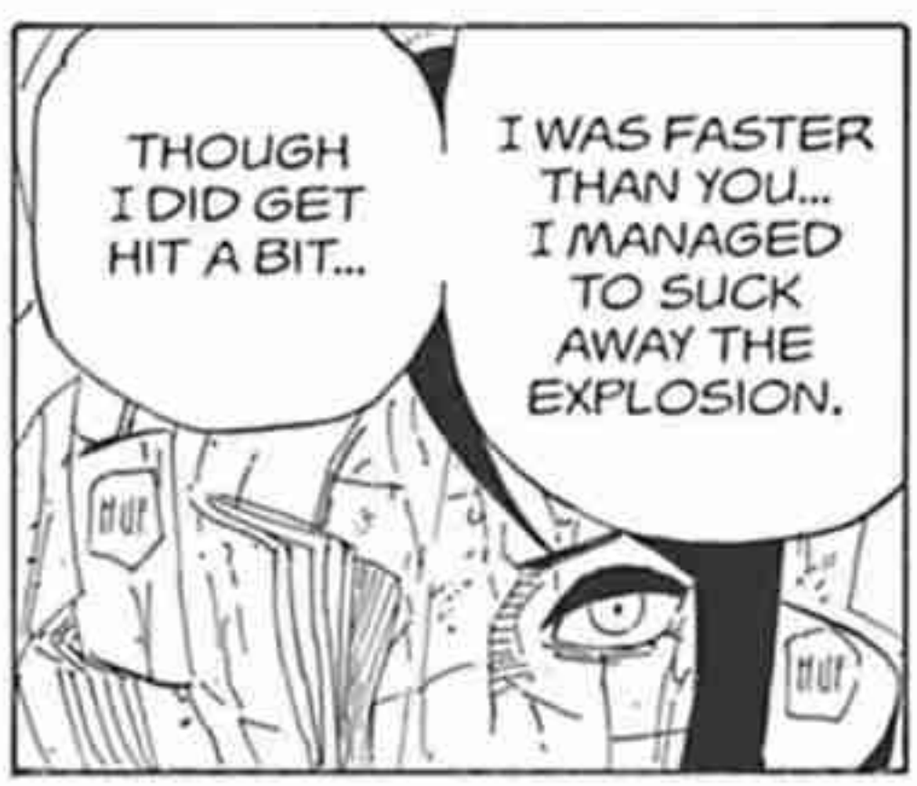
...THAT SUPPORTS **TWO** BRIDGES: YAHIKO **AND** NAGATO!!

I WILL BE A PILLAR...

SWOO...

I DIDN'T TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY ENOUGH... AND COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU **ARE** A FORMER AKATSUKI MEMBER.

SWOOO



...

...YOU WERE ALSO SAVED BECAUSE I SUCKED IT AWAY...
YOU OUGHT TO THANK ME.

NOW... WAS THAT THE LAST OF YOUR SECRET SCHEMES?

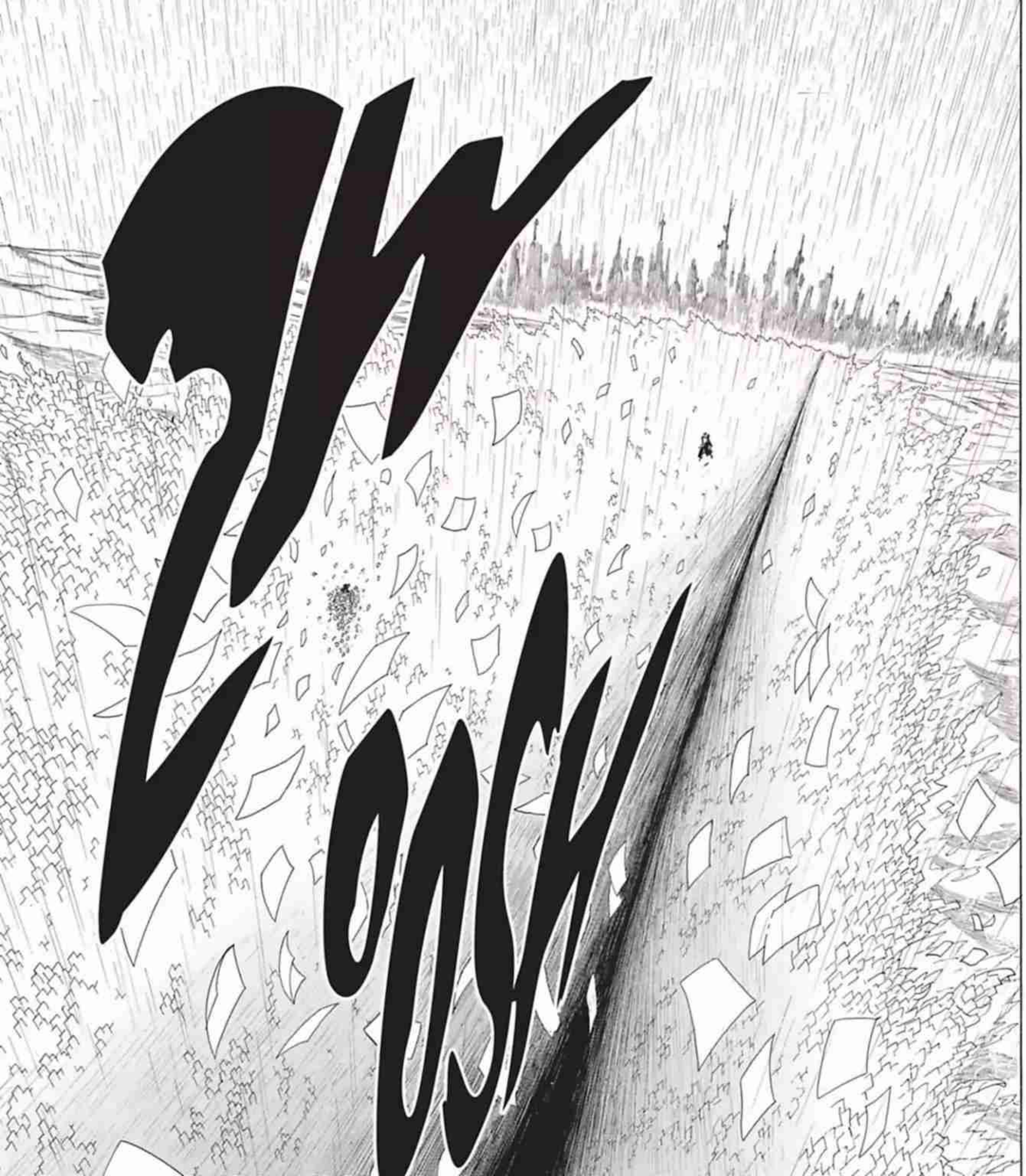
FSH
WHAT IS IT?

MADARA... I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU.

FFFFF
FFFFF

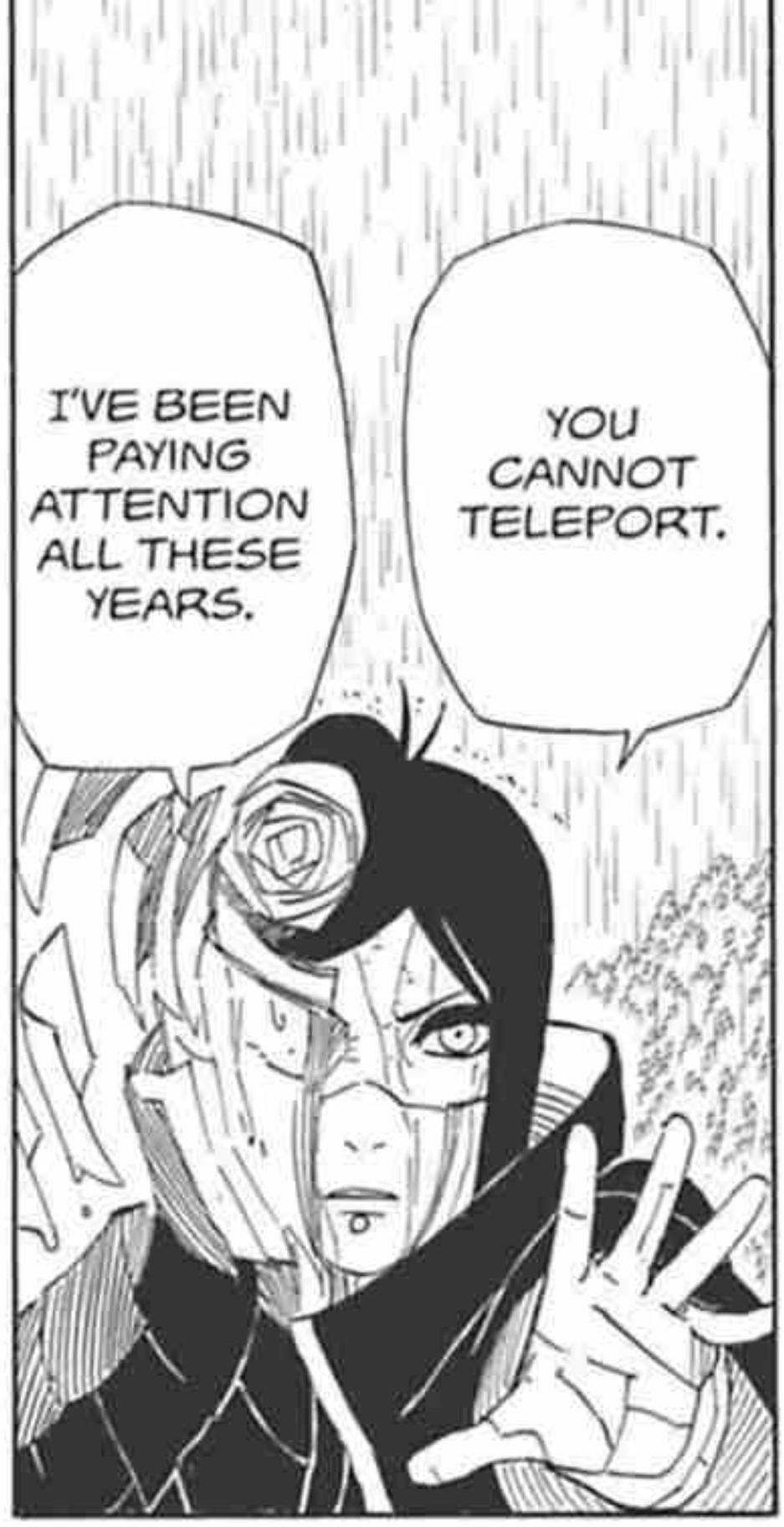
...THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM.
NOT REALLY...

DO YOU KNOW WHY WE BETRAYED YOU?


CRASH

FLOWERS WILT IN A WORLD WITHOUT LIGHT!!
YOU ARE DARKNESS!
?!!
PRIIP PRIIP
WOOP
FWOO

Number 510: Forbidden Jutsu-Shock!!


I'VE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION ALL THESE YEARS.
YOU CANNOT TELEPORT.

BOM
BOM

IT WOULD'VE BEEN BAD...
IF I HADN'T SWITCHED FROM FLYING...
...TO SLIPPING PAST THAT EXPLOSION...

AND IT TAKES LONGER TO SUCK YOURSELF IN...THAN ANOTHER PERSON OR OBJECT...
TO TELEPORT, YOU MUST FIRST MATERIALIZE.
BO
OF

I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL WHERE I MATERI-ALIZE...
WITH ALL THESE EXPLOSIVE TAGS EVERY-WHERE, SHE CAN ATTACK AT ANY MOMENT...
FWOOO...

!!

I ALSO KNOW YOU CAN ONLY SLIP THROUGH OBJECTS FOR NO MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES!

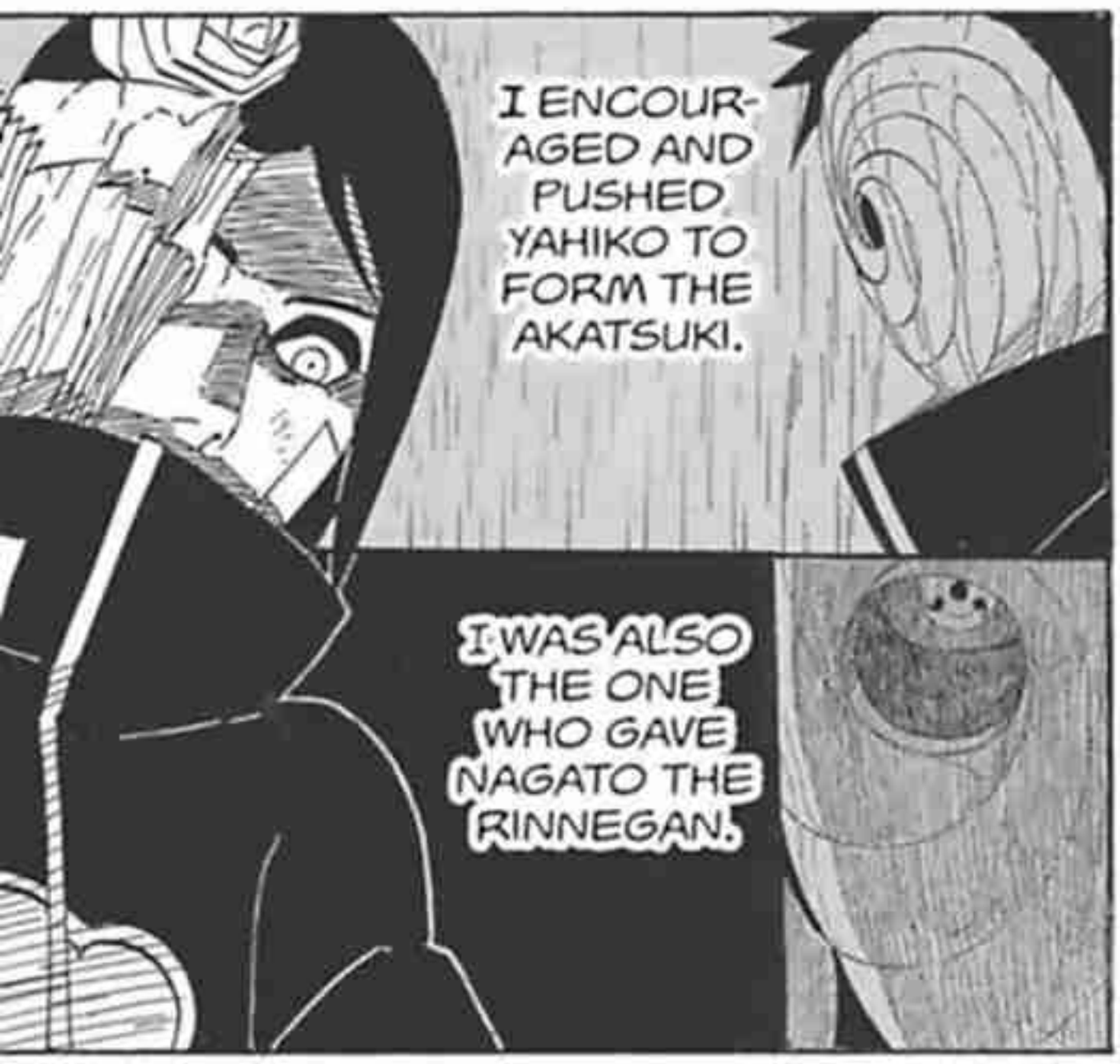
THEY WILL ALL EXPLODE FOR A FULL TEN MINUTES!!
THERE ARE 600 BILLION! I DO PLAN TO KILL YOU.

SO MANY EXPLOSIVE TAGS!
爆

爆
爆
爆
爆
爆
爆

...!!
CHAK

BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM


I ENCOURAGED AND PUSHED YAHIKO TO FORM THE AKATSUKI.
I WAS ALSO THE ONE WHO GAVE NAGATO THE RINNEGAN.

VOO
SH

BOM BOM BOM

YAHIKO AND NAGATO WERE ACTING OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL!

BOM BOM BOM

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE TO YOU. THEY FOUGHT AND DIED FOR THEIR OWN REASONS!

THEY WERE NOT YOUR PAWNS!

THEY WILL ALWAYS SHARE THAT!!

I WILL **NOT** LET YOU INTERFERE !!

BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM BOM

SPLOOSH

RAAWR

HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
Flip
Flip

HUF
HUF
...MADARA...

I DIDN'T ANTICIPATE NEEDING THIS MUCH CHAKRA, BUT AT LEAST...
MY SACRED PAPER EMISSARY JUTSU... HAS COME UNDONE...
FWOSH
FWOOSH

HUF
Flip...
Flip...

?!!

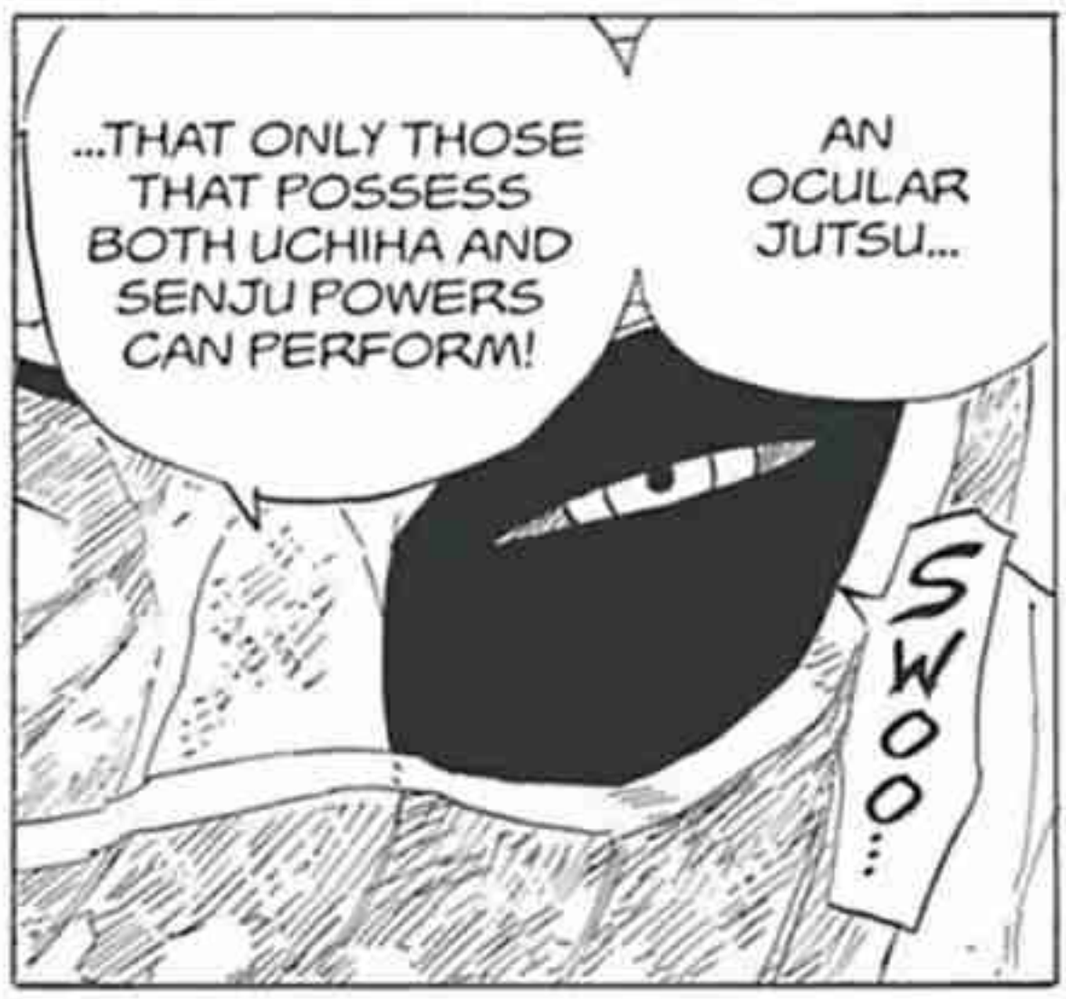
...IS DEAD?

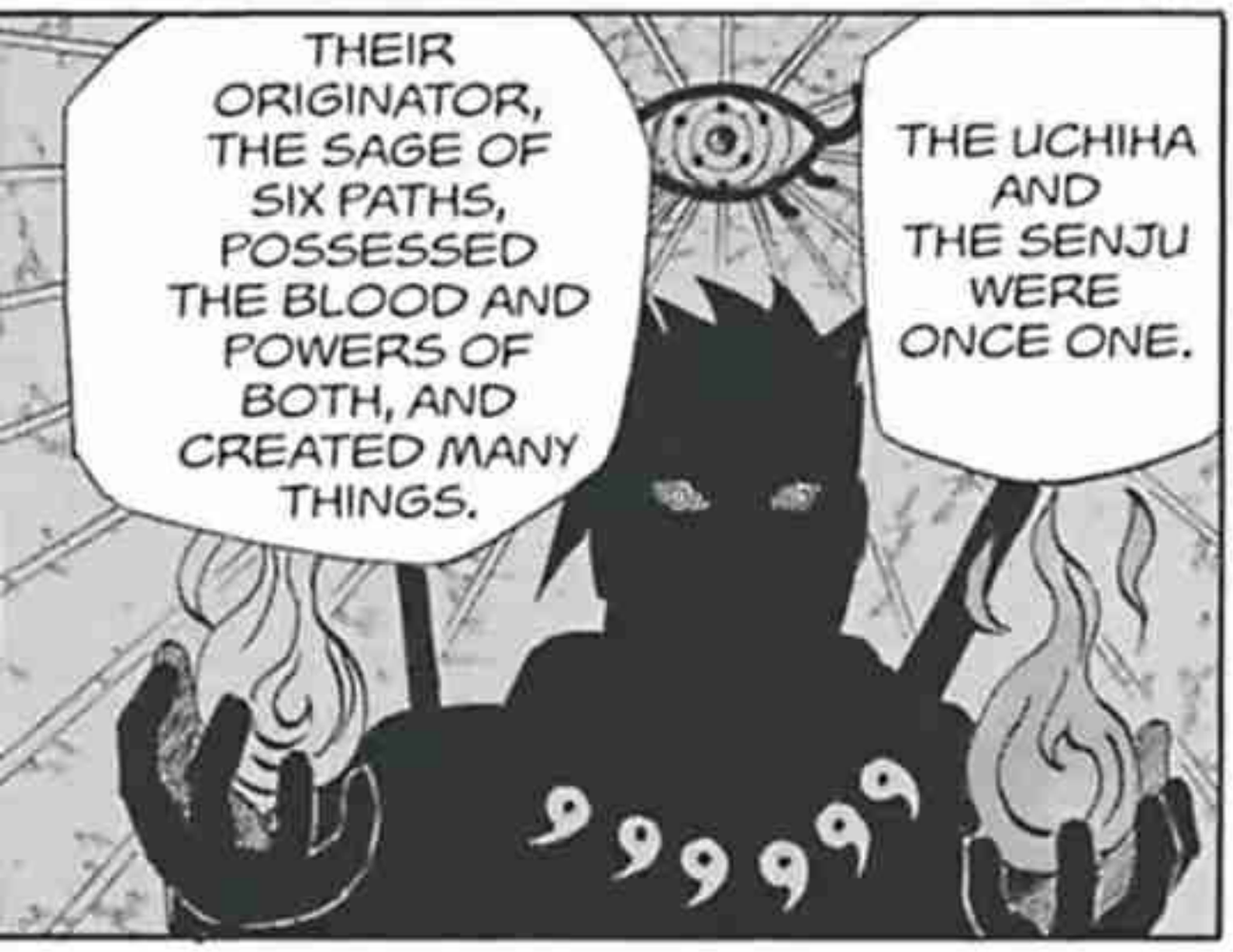
Flp Flp Flp Flp

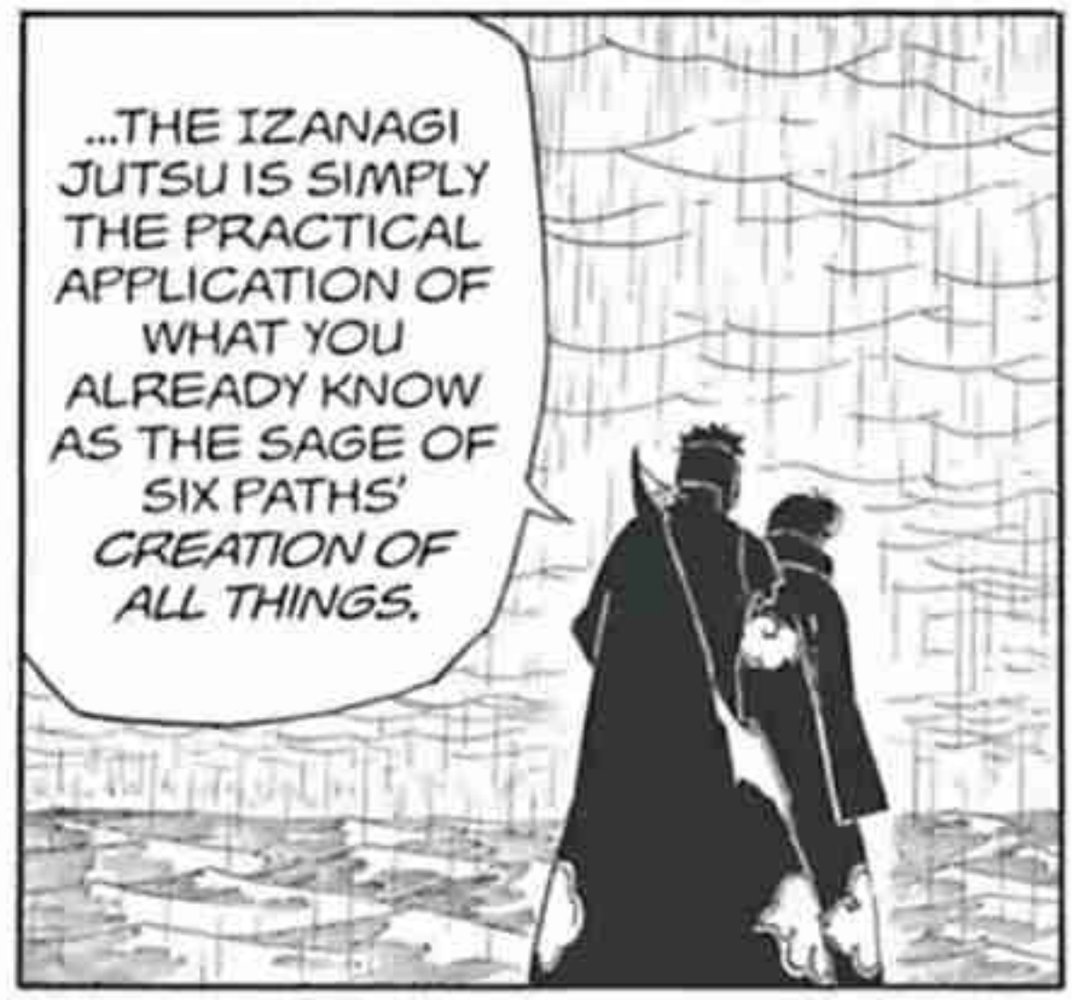
Flp Flp Flp Flp

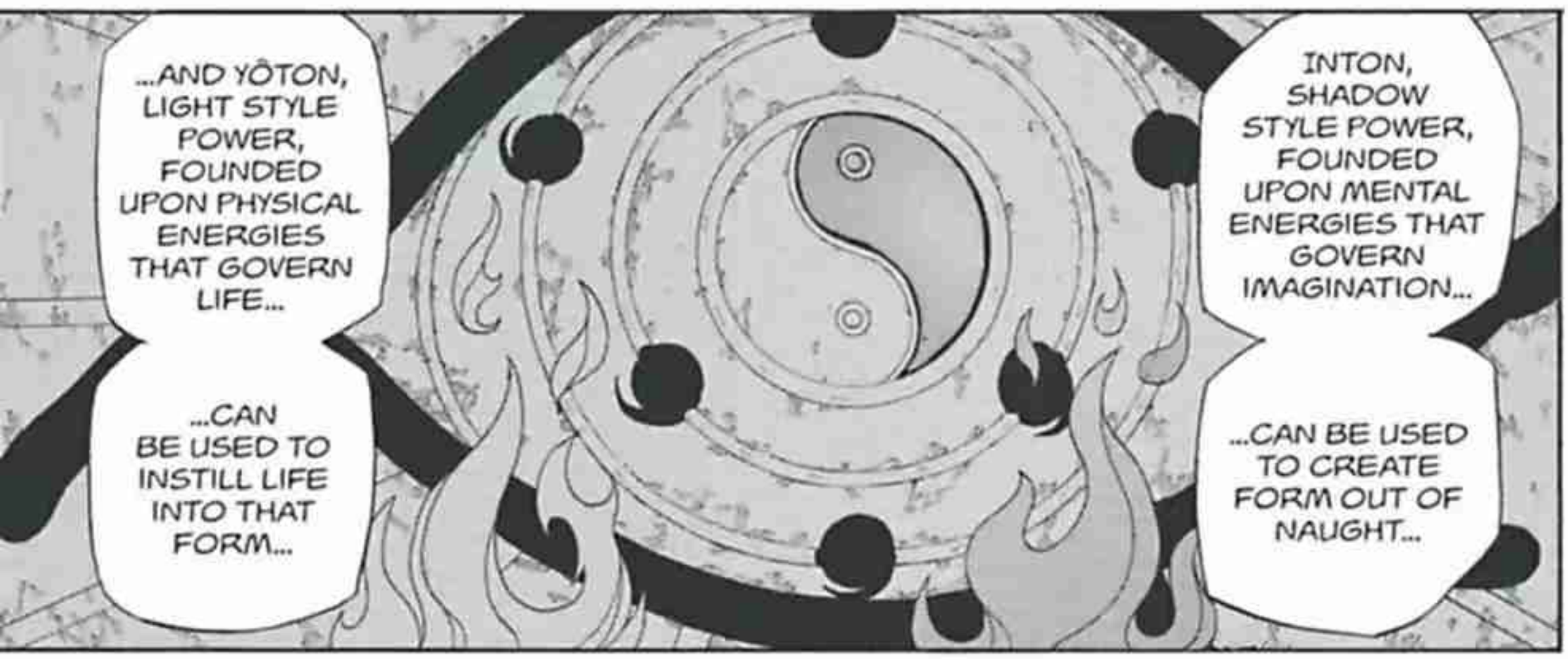
I RAN THE SIMULATIONS OVER AND OVER. **YOU SHOULD BE DEAD.**

HOW ARE YOU NOT DEAD?!




THEIR ORIGINATOR, THE SAGE OF SIX PATHS, POSSESSED THE BLOOD AND POWERS OF BOTH, AND CREATED MANY THINGS.
THE UCHIHA AND THE SENJU WERE ONCE ONE.


...THE IZANAGI JUTSU IS SIMPLY THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW AS THE SAGE OF SIX PATHS' CREATION OF ALL THINGS.


...AND YÔTON, LIGHT STYLE POWER, FOUNDED UPON PHYSICAL ENERGIES THAT GOVERN LIFE...
...CAN BE USED TO INSTILL LIFE INTO THAT FORM...
INTON, SHADOW STYLE POWER, FOUNDED UPON MENTAL ENERGIES THAT GOVERN IMAGINATION...
...CAN BE USED TO CREATE FORM OUT OF NAUGHT...

JUTSU THAT CAN MAKE FANTASY REALITY...

THE SAGE USED THE POWERS OF SHADOW AND LIGHT STYLES TO CREATE THE NINE BIJU FROM TEN TAILS' CHAKRA.
THE BIJU ARE BUT ONE EXAMPLE...

WHO... WHAT... ARE YOU...?

THAT IS THE IZANAGI.

I AM UNIQUE. I AM THE SECOND SAGE OF THE SIX PATHS!
I AM UCHIHA MADARA. AND I POSSESS THE POWER OF SENJU HASHIRAMA!

VICTORS ARE THOSE THAT LOOK AND PLAN AHEAD. THE TRUE CONTEST IS JUST BEGINNING...
THE WORLD BELIEVES THAT UCHIHA MADARA LOST TO SENJU HASHIRAMA... BUT WHAT IS THE REAL TRUTH?
I ONLY ENGAGED IN OUR PREVIOUS BATTLE SO I COULD ACQUIRE HIS POWERS.

...
ZWOP
UGH...!

HEH HEH...
THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW WHO MANAGED AN INCOMPLETE IZANAGI, BUT THEY WERE UNABLE TO TRULY CONTROL THE POWER OF HASHIRAMA.

!

NAGATO WAS PATHETIC TO BELIEVE IN NARUTO!
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS TRUE PEACE! NO HOPE!

WHEN YOU DO, YOU AND HE CAN DISCUSS...
...AD NAUSEAM HOW YOU BOTH FELL FOR NARUTO'S FOOLISH DREAMS.
YOU'LL BE SEEING NAGATO SOON.
KOFF

THAT IS, HIS WILL ITSELF IS.
YAHIKO IS THE VIADUCT TO PEACE.

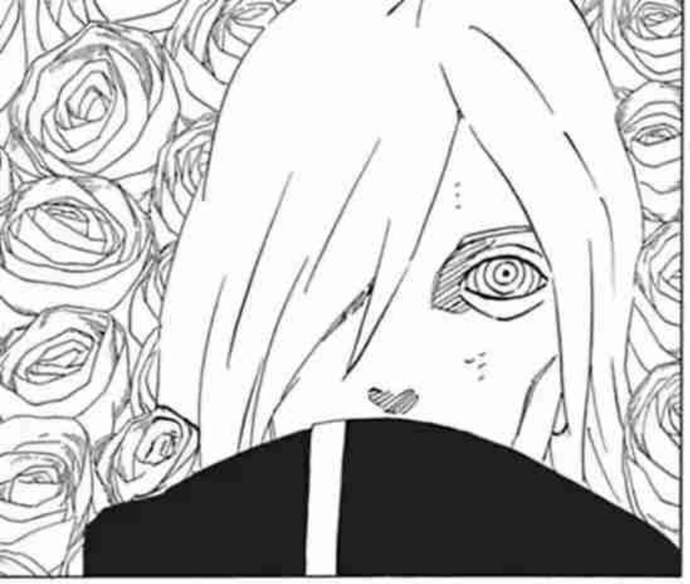
I WILL BE THE PILLAR THAT SUPPORTS THAT VIADUCT.
NAGATO IS THE VIADUCT TO PEACE.

...THIS... CAN'T BE...
PAT
PAT
PAT

THAT HE...
YAHIKO! NAGATO! ...THEIR WILLS SHALL NOT BE EXTINGUISHED!
I TOO BELIEVE IN NARUTO!
FSH...

WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE NEVER-ENDING AME-GAKURE RAIN IS LETTING UP...?

NARUTO... I BELIEVE YOU OF ALL PEOPLE... CAN...
SEEMS THIS IS IT FOR ME...

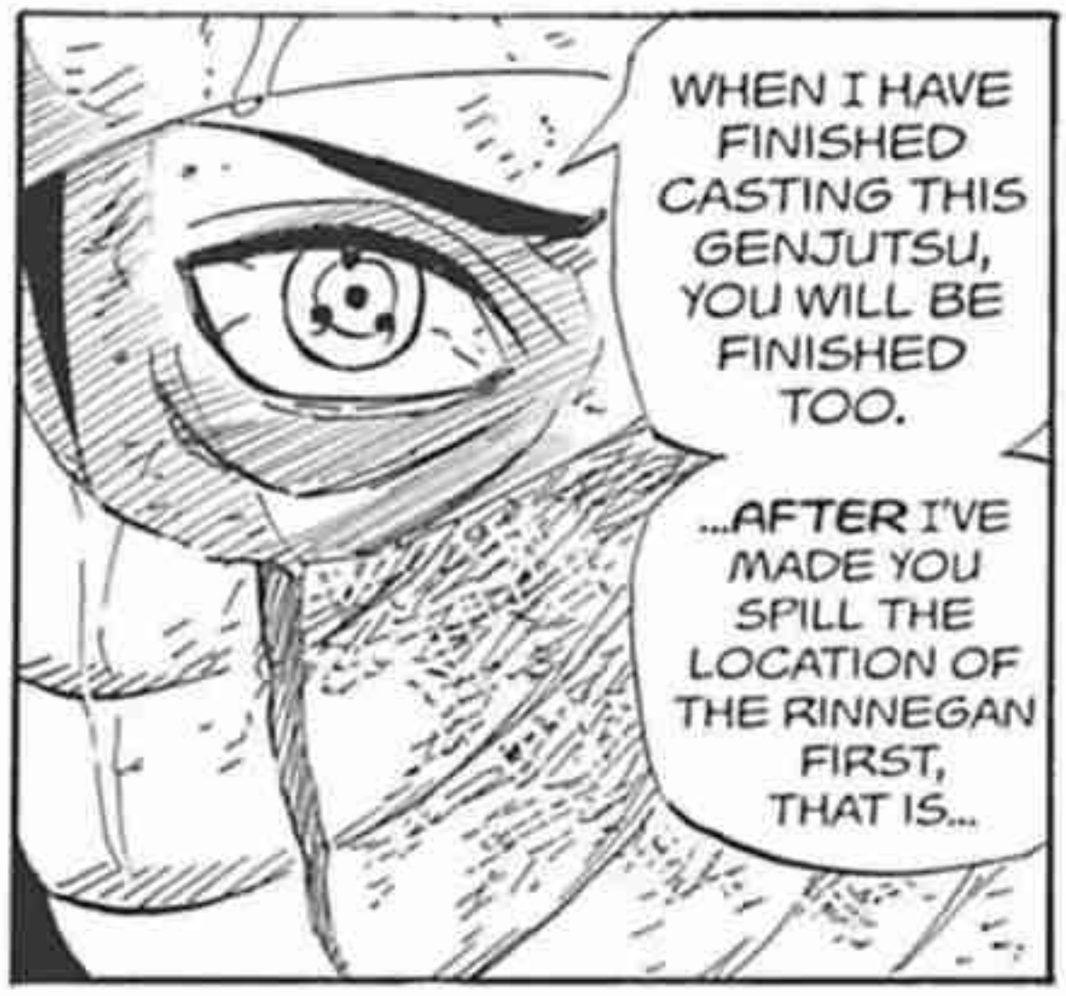


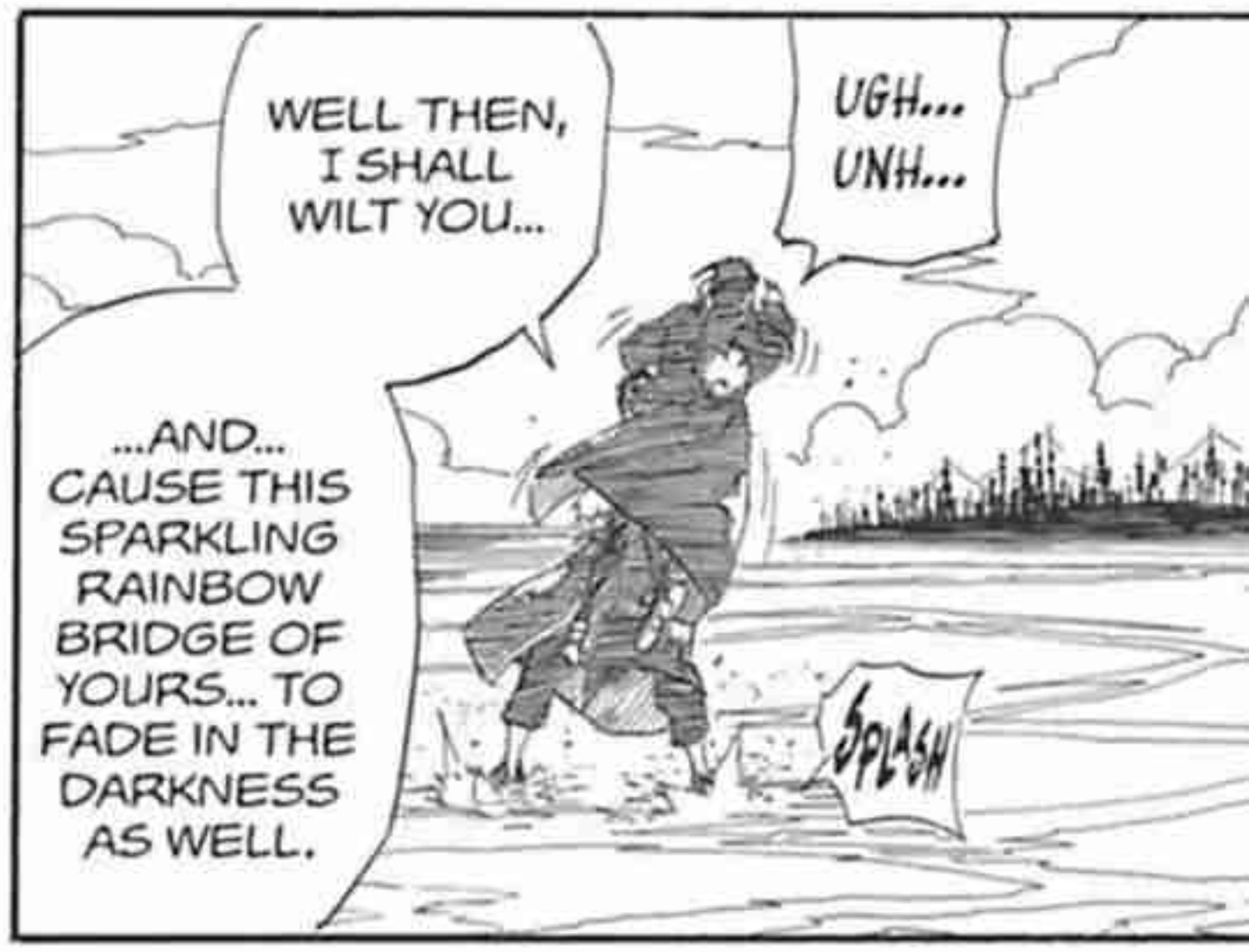
...IS THE VIADUCT TO PEACE!!

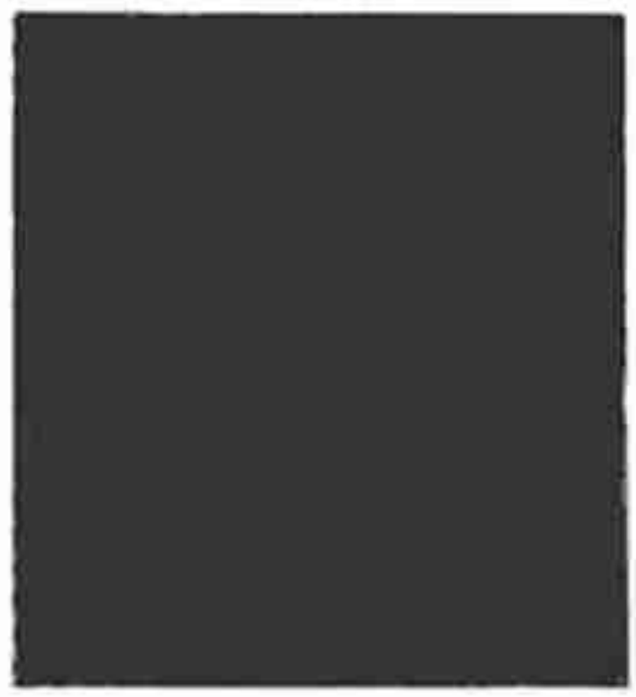
AND I SHALL BE HIS PILLAR !!!

YOU CALLED ME DARKNESS.

!!



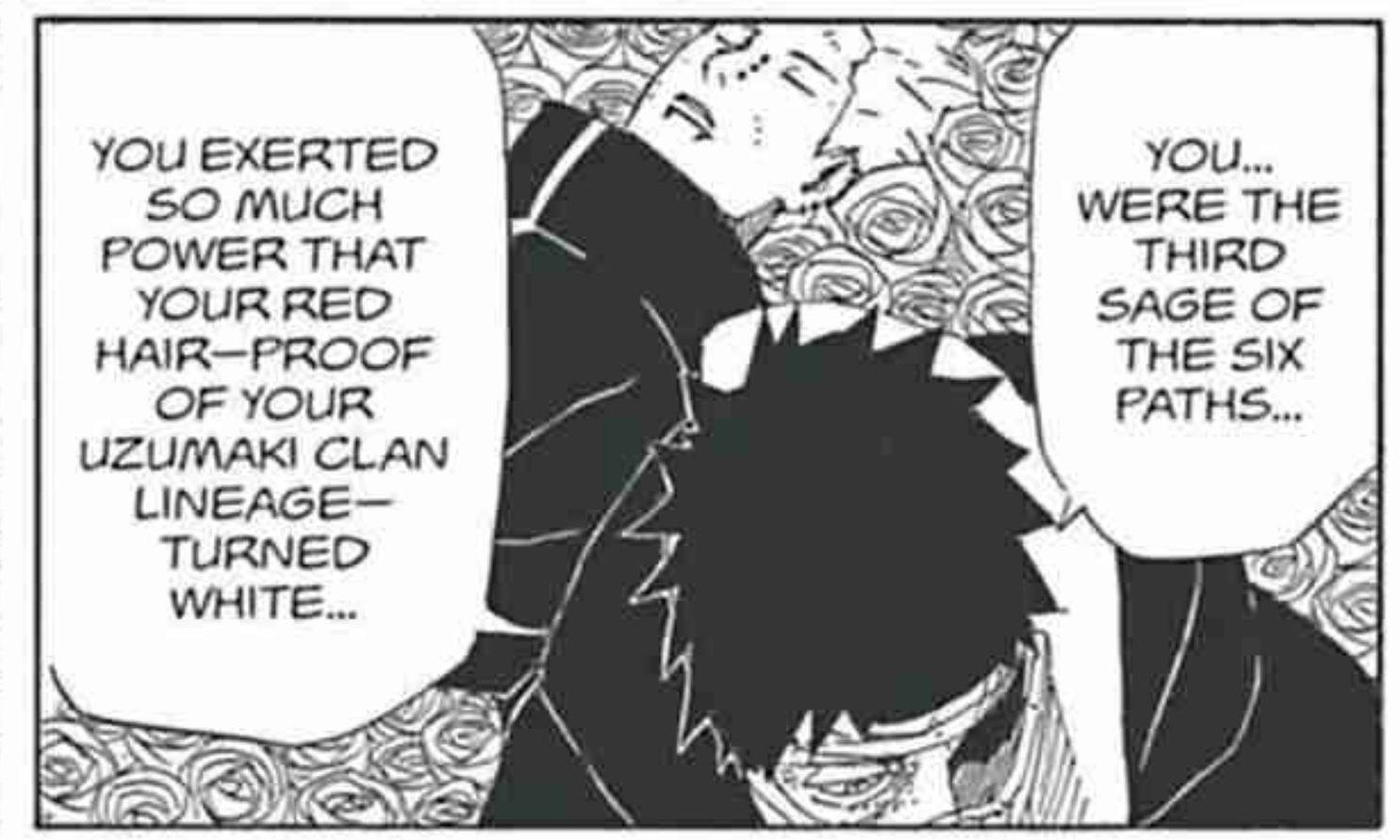




TAK
TMP

HERE, EH...
SHIP

...!
PT


YOU EXERTED SO MUCH POWER THAT YOUR RED HAIR—PROOF OF YOUR UZUMAKI CLAN LINEAGE—TURNED WHITE...
YOU... WERE THE THIRD SAGE OF THE SIX PATHS...

YOU BETRAYED ME! AND STILL YOU LAUGH AT ME...?

NARUTO

Number 511: We Shall Return

SWW

FSH

ZWWWWWW

ZWOOOO

TH
D

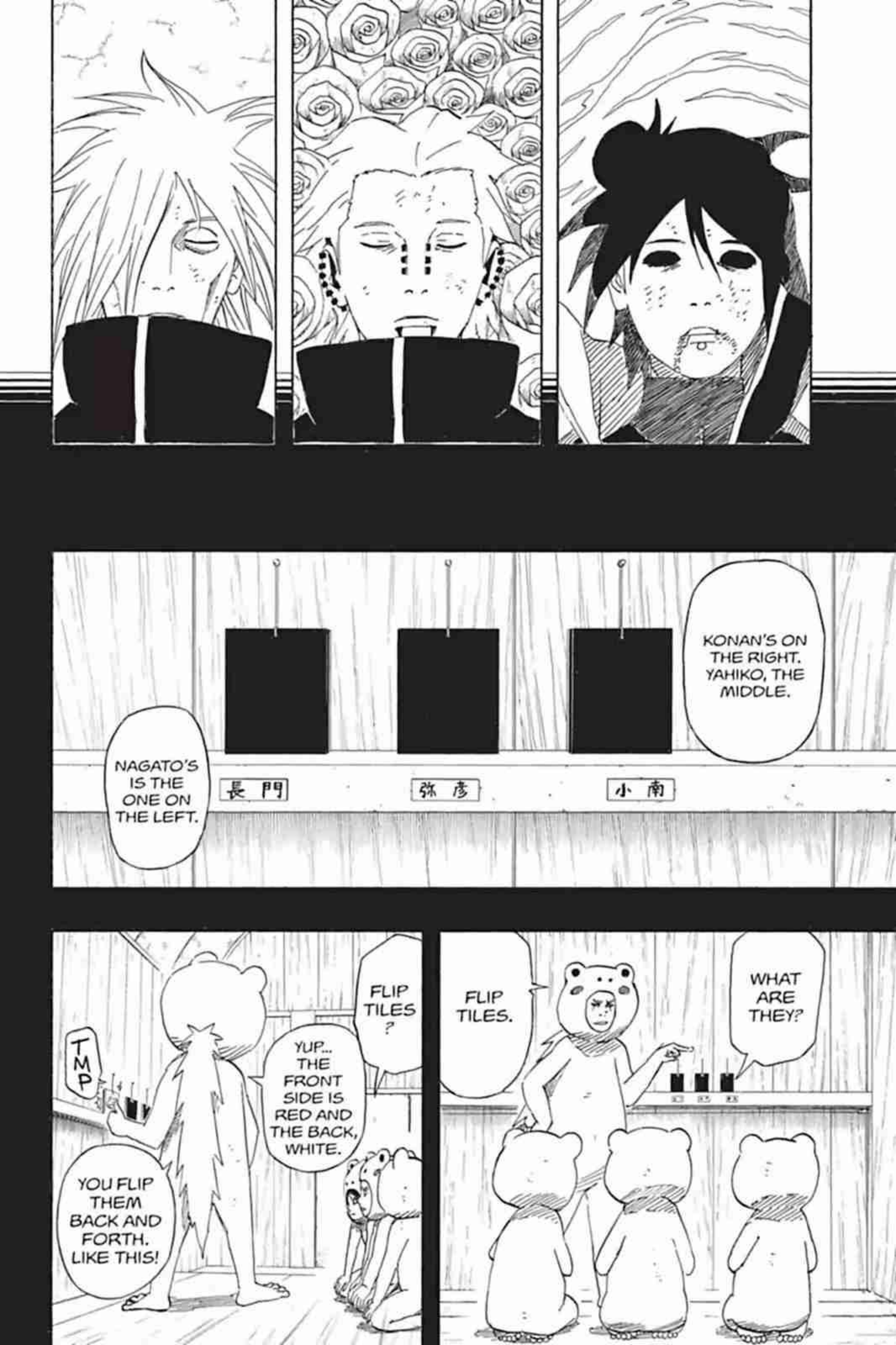
THAT TOOK TOO LONG. GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE.
SHUP
SHUP

SPLOOSH

Zzz
FLAP

WH

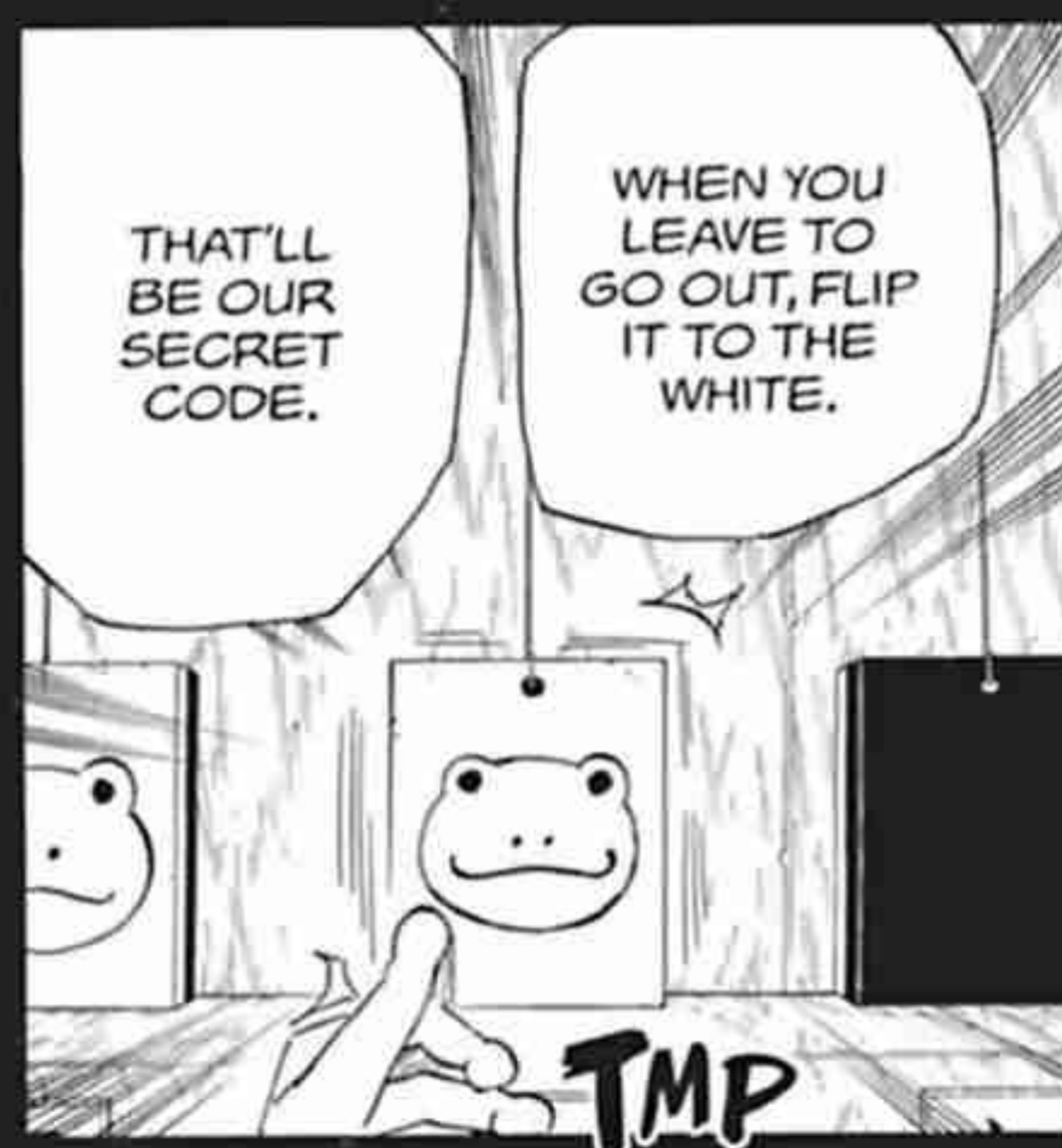
WAFT...


KONAN'S ON THE RIGHT. YAHIKO, THE MIDDLE.
NAGATO'S IS THE ONE ON THE LEFT.
長門
弥彦
小南
FLIP TILES ?
YUP... THE FRONT SIDE IS RED AND THE BACK, WHITE.
TMP
YOU FLIP THEM BACK AND FORTH. LIKE THIS!
FLIP TILES.
WHAT ARE THEY?

WHEN YOU'RE HERE AT HEAD-QUARTERS, I WANT THE RED SIDE SHOWING.
FLIP
長門
彦
小南

...
HEH
?
...

...
HEH
...UM... WHAT'S WITH THE SILLY GRIN...?
YOU KNOW, WE ONLY LET YOU GET AWAY WITH ALL THIS FROG STUFF CUZ YOU'RE THE TOAD SAGE.


THAT'LL BE OUR SECRET CODE.
WHEN YOU LEAVE TO GO OUT, FLIP IT TO THE WHITE.
TMP

SWOO
...THE ENEMY CAN LOCATE US EASILY.
WHEN WE'RE HERE IN OUR HIDEOUT, AT HEAD-QUARTERS...

THIS REGION IS UNSAFE...
WE COULD BE TARGETED AT ANY TIME.
...BUT WHAT DO THE TILES HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

UNLIKE YAHIKO.

NICELY DEDUCED, KONAN...

I KNEW! I KNEW THAT TOO!! ...MOSTLY...

...OR IF THE WHITE SIDE IS SHOWING FOR ONE OF US, BUT WE'RE IN THE ROOM, IT COULD MEAN THAT IS NOT REALLY ONE OF US, BUT AN ENEMY IN DISGUISE.

...RIGHT?

SO, IF THE RED SIDE IS SHOWING BUT THAT PERSON ISN'T IN THE HIDEOUT, IT MIGHT MEAN THEY'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED...

I'VE ALSO BUILT A SECRET ROOM UNDER HERE, WITH AN ESCAPE PASSAGE THAT LEADS OUTSIDE.

CREAK

WE CAN'T EVER RELAX, NOT EVEN WHEN WE'RE AT HOME.

THIS CODE, KNOWN ONLY TO THE FOUR OF US, WILL HELP US CONFIRM WHO'S WHERE AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

AND MY TILE IS BEHIND YOU.

IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, USE IT TO GET AWAY.

SWO
SHOOM
LET'S GO!!

YOU'LL HONE YOUR ENDURANCE BY BECOMING A FROG AND LEARNING NOT TO REACT TO ANYTHING THROWN IN YOUR FACE WHATSOEVER...!!
...ALL RIGHT. TIME FOR TODAY'S LESSON: "WATER IN A FROG'S FACE" TRAINING!
YEAH!!!

AND CHANGE EVERY-THING!!
I'M GOING TO GET REAL STRONG, I SWEAR!!
WUMP

YAHIKO... DO YOU REALLY GET IT...? MASTER DID IT FOR US THIS TIME, BUT...
TMP

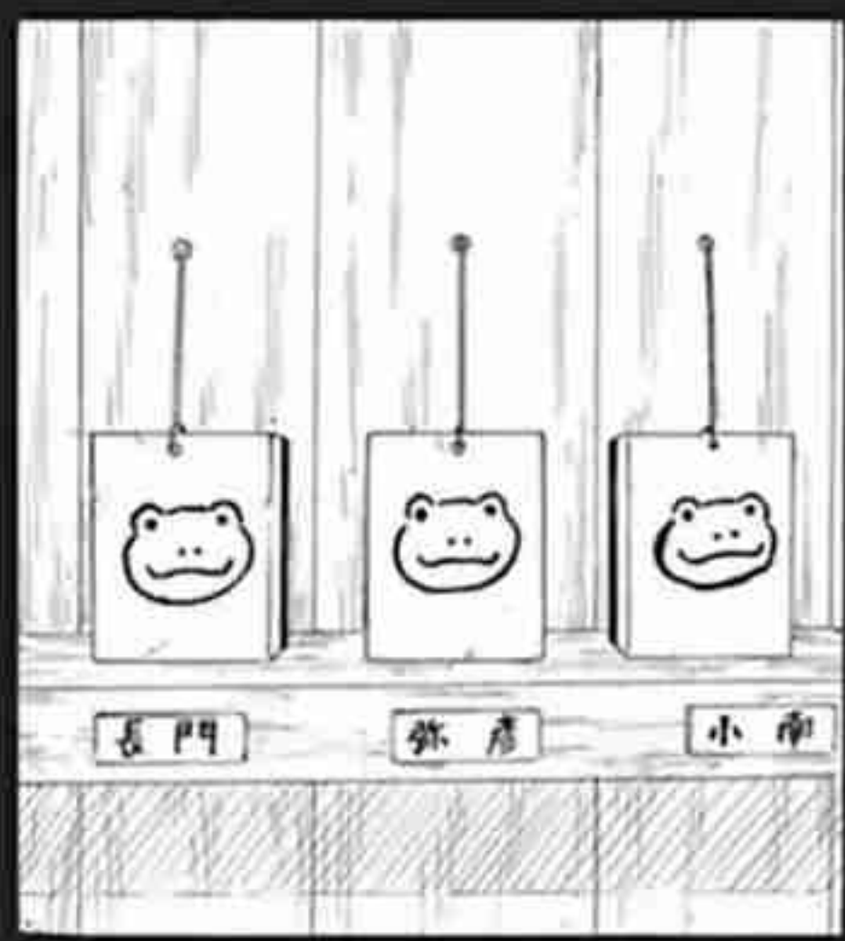
TAK

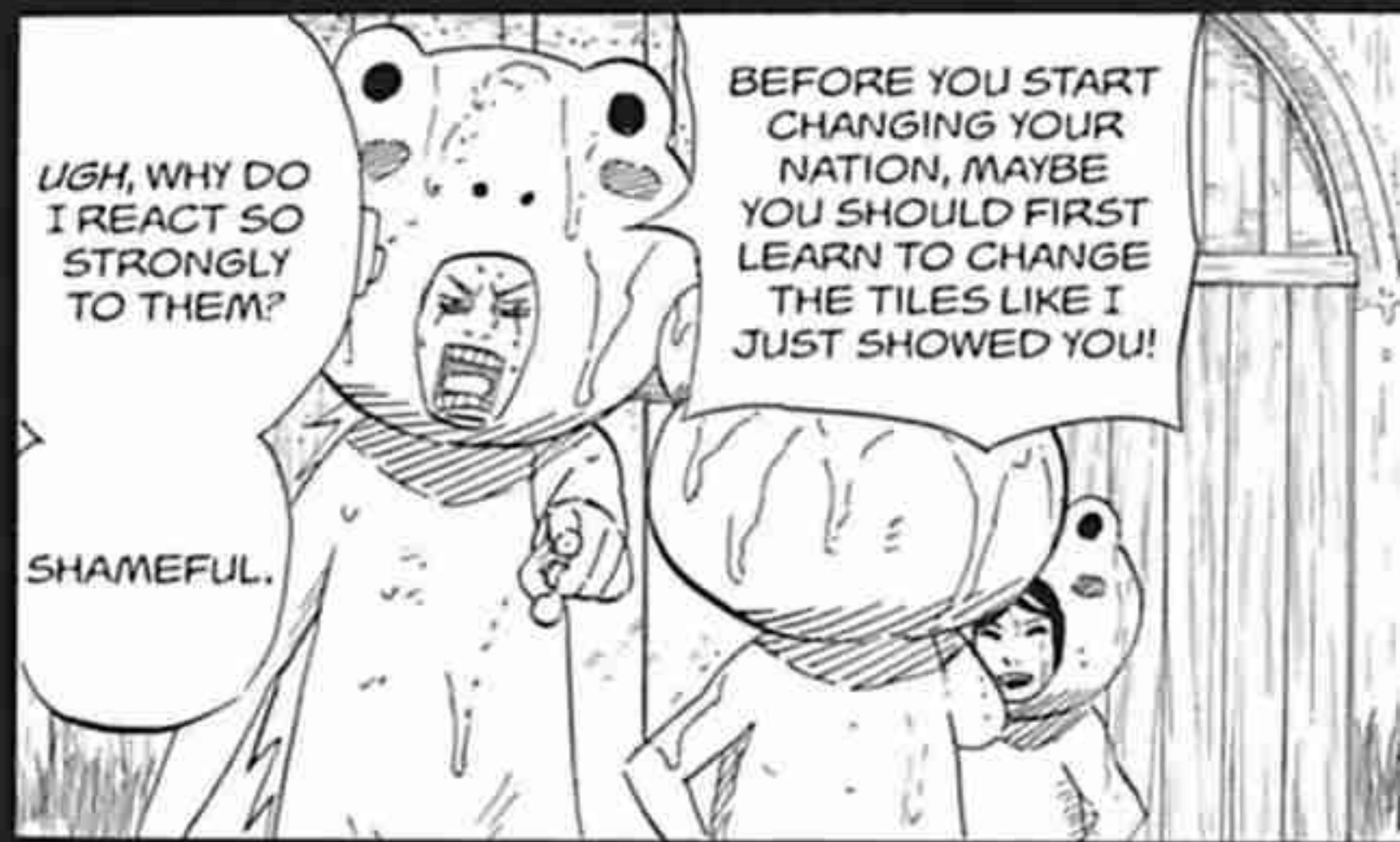
...

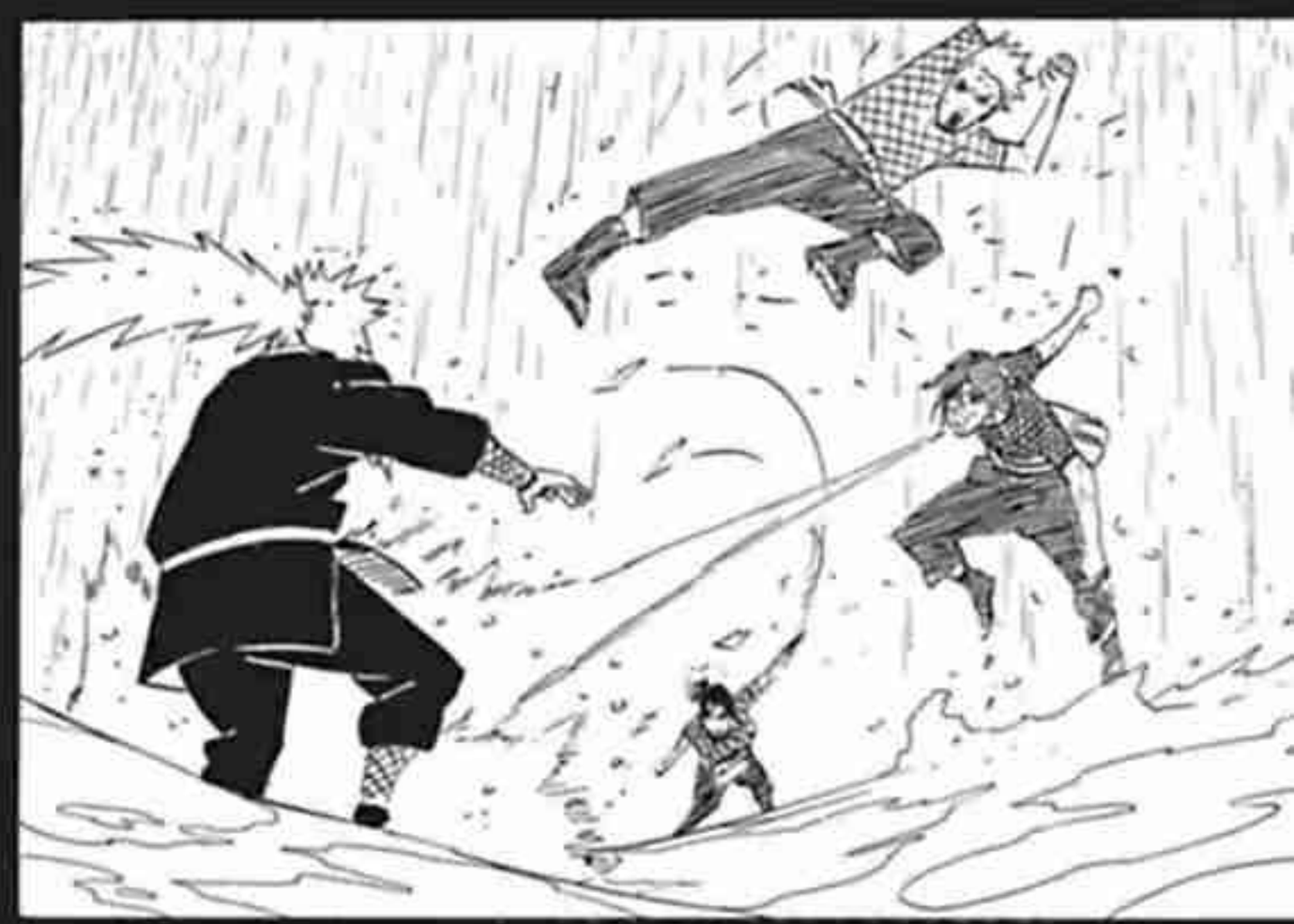
...!

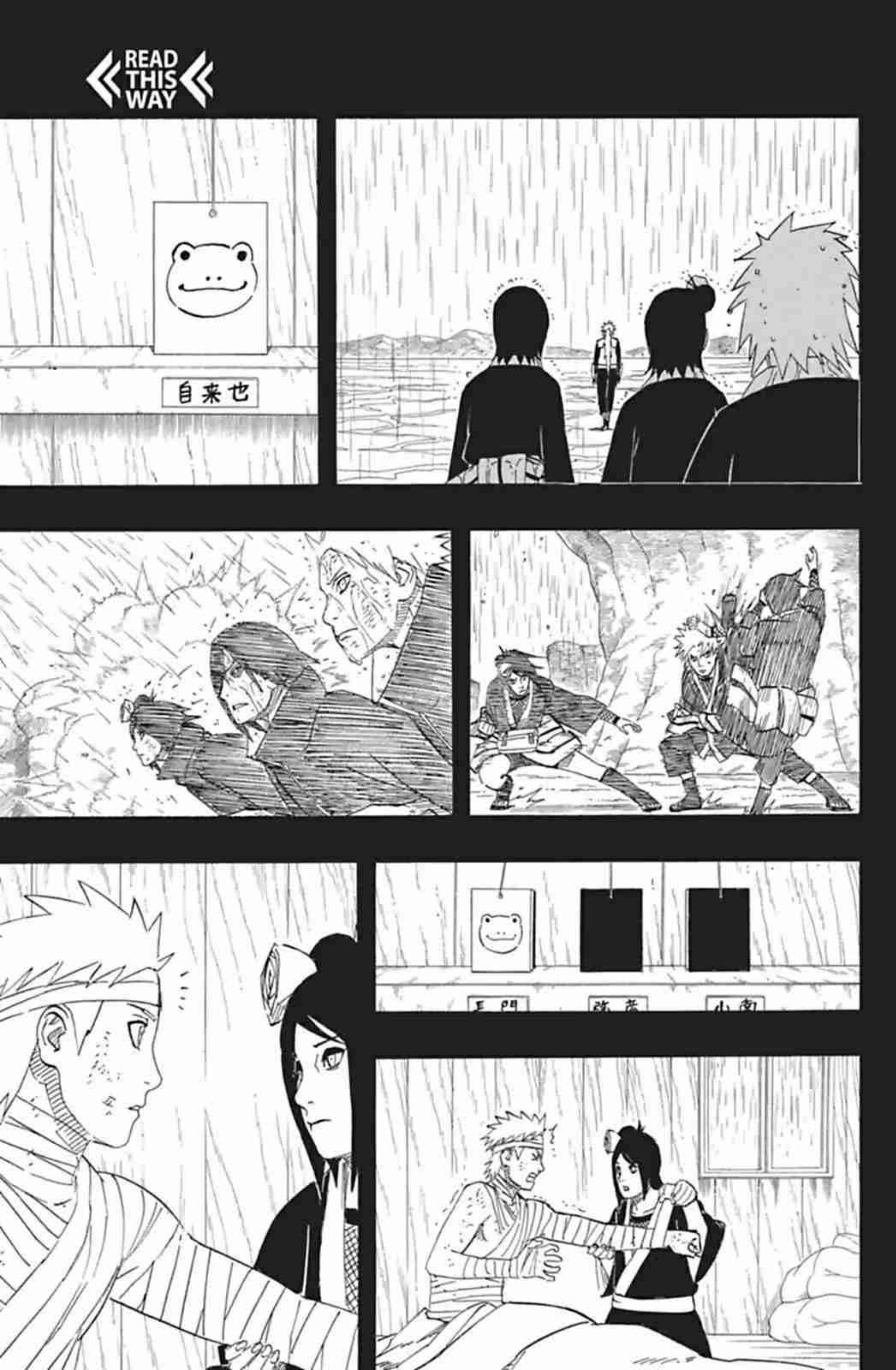
...
ZING

GRIN


長門
弥彦
小南


UGH, WHY DO I REACT SO STRONGLY TO THEM?
SHAMEFUL.
BEFORE YOU START CHANGING YOUR NATION, MAYBE YOU SHOULD FIRST LEARN TO CHANGE THE TILES LIKE I JUST SHOWED YOU!




READ THIS WAY
自来也

WE NEED A NEW HIDEOUT...
OUR ORGANIZATION HAS GOTTEN TOO BIG...

YEAH...

TODAY'S OUR LAST DAY HERE...

AND...

THIS IS WHERE WE LEARNED TO MAKE OUR DREAMS COME TRUE!

EVERY-THING STARTED HERE.

THIS IS WHERE WE GREW UP, BECAME STRONG.

TMP

長門

弥彦

小南

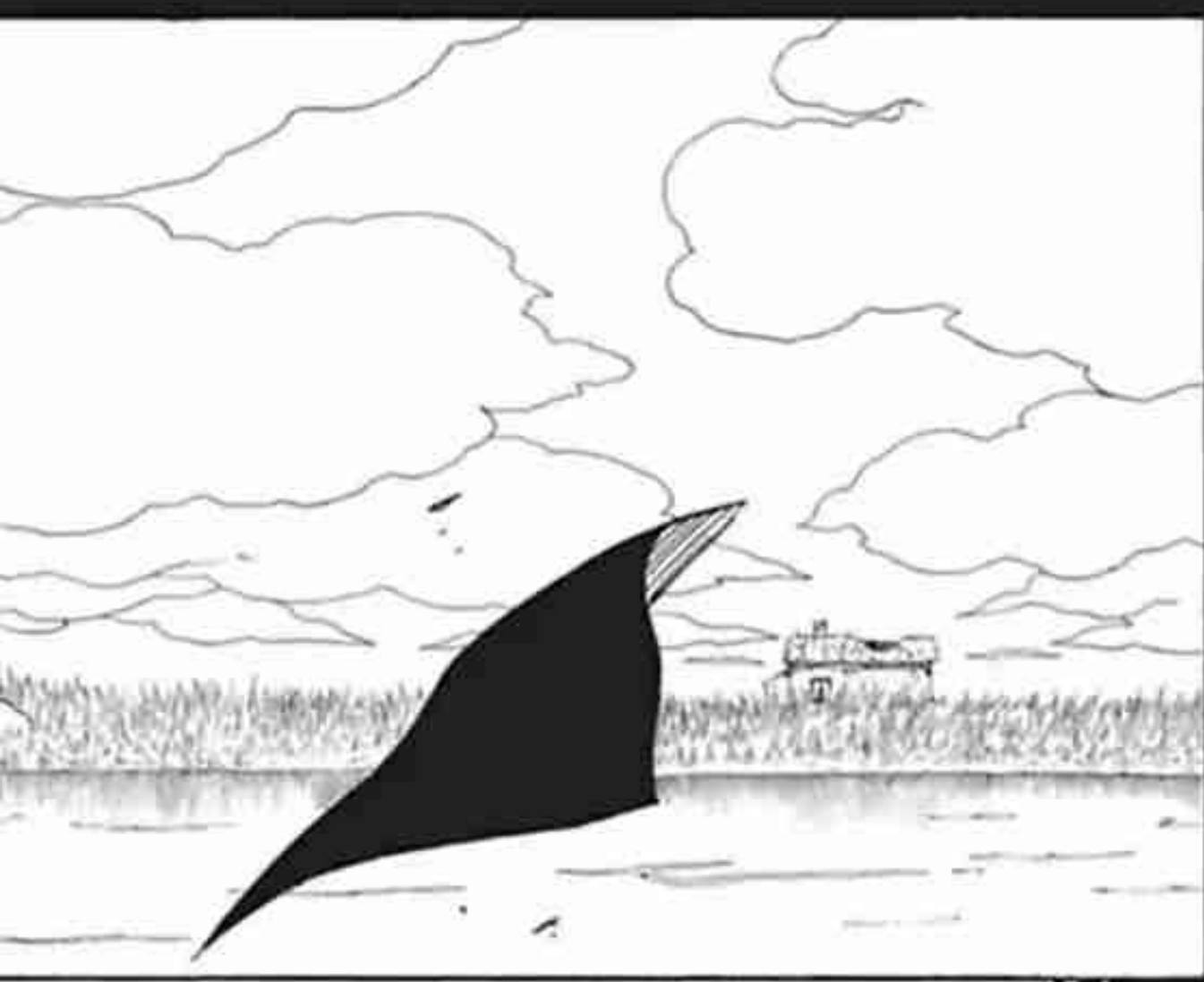
SHUP

SWOOO...

TAK
BO
TAK
M
TAK
TAK
THK
THK
!!
WHERE'D THEY GO?
BOOF
BOOF
!
TMP
TMP
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SECRET ROOM CAME IN HANDY AT THE VERY END.
SSH

NOW LET'S GO, NAGATO! KONAN!
WHOOSH

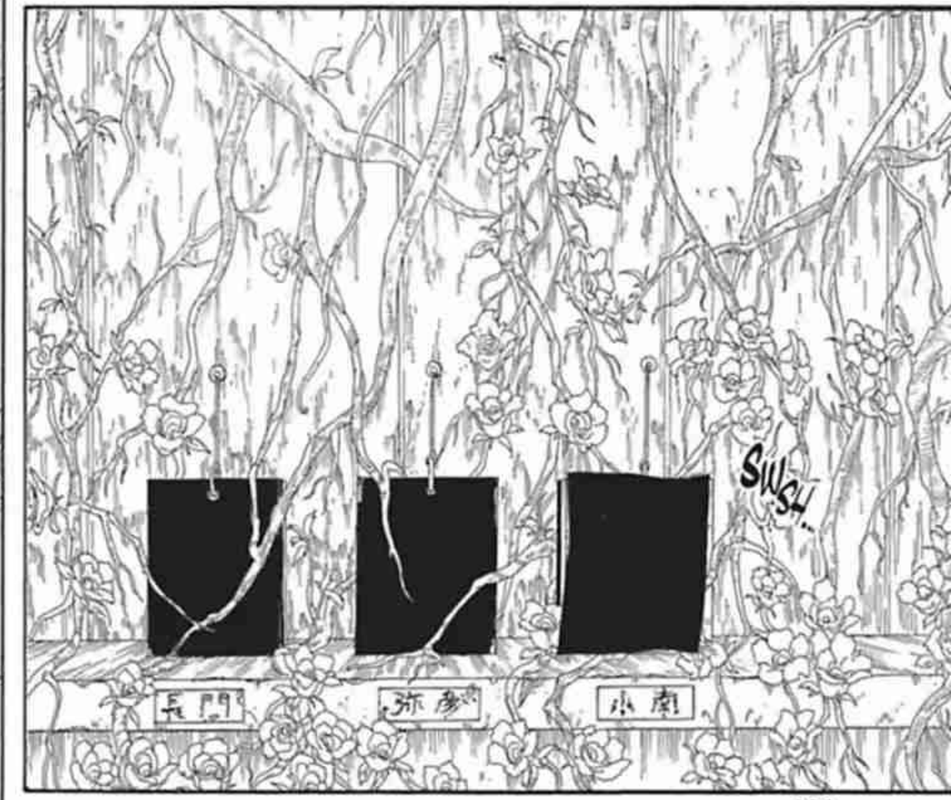
OKAY, THAT WAS UNEXPECTED.
BUT APPROPRIATE.
FSH
SHUP



...EVEN IF WE'RE SPLIT APART...

THIS IS WHERE WE LEARNED TO MAKE OUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
ONCE THAT HAPPENS...

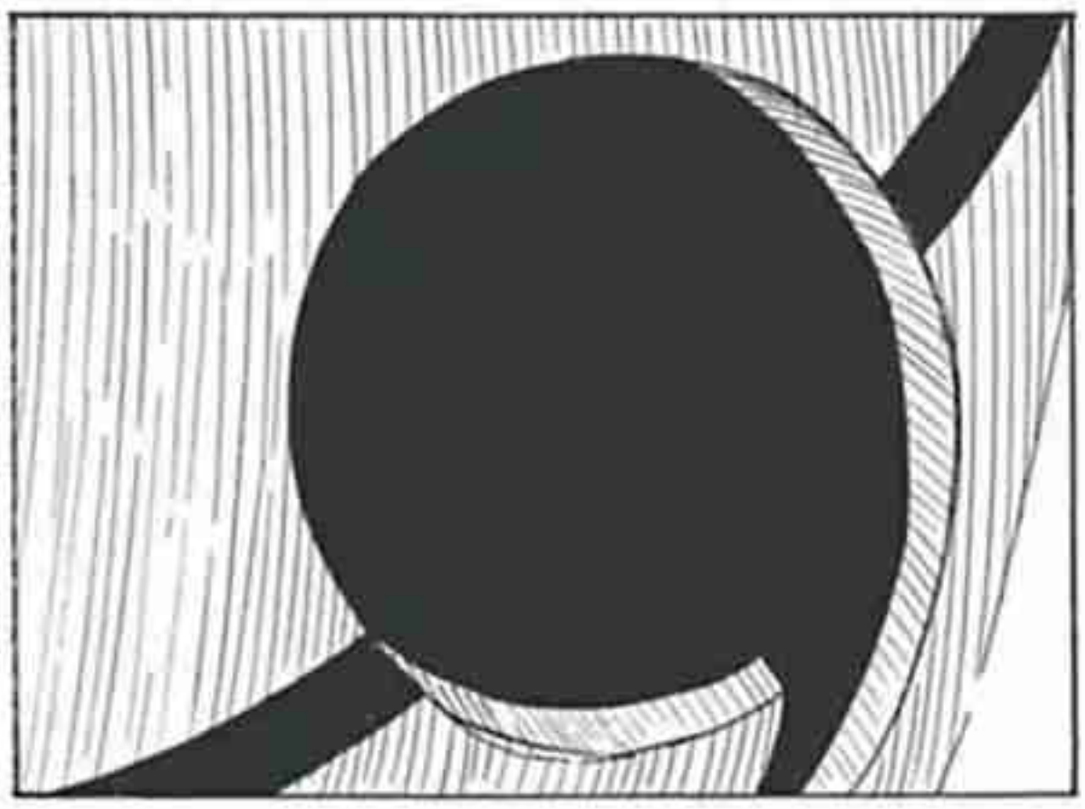
AND CELE-BRATE TOGETHER!

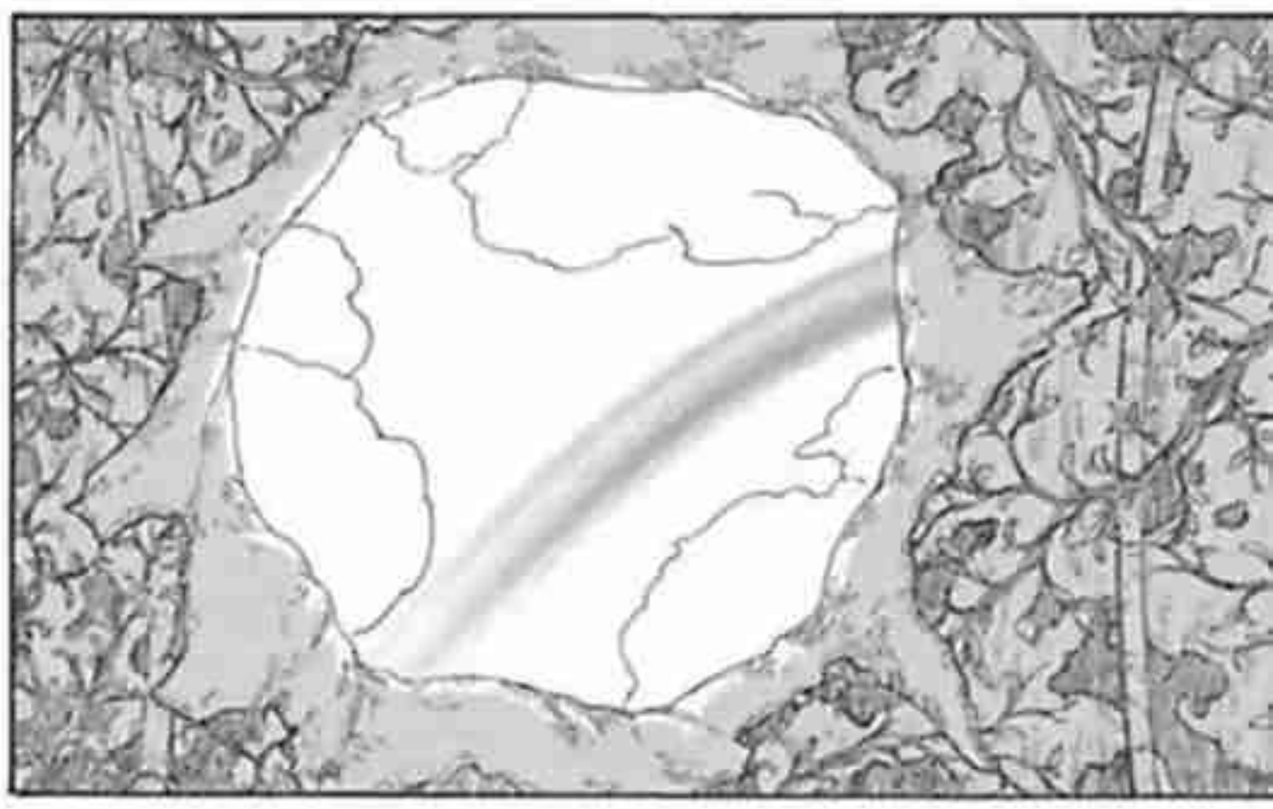


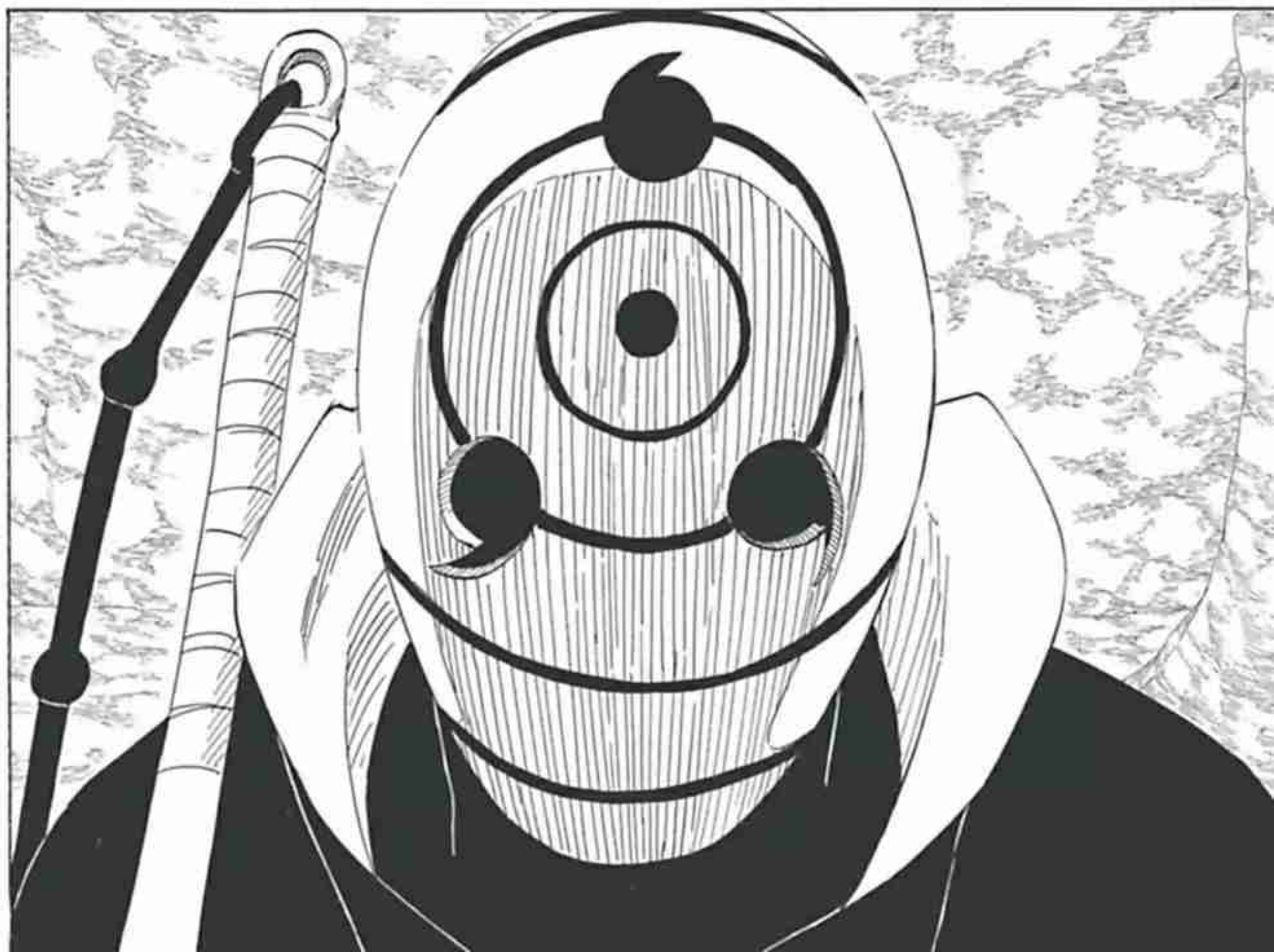
YOU'RE RIGHT...

GOOD POINT.

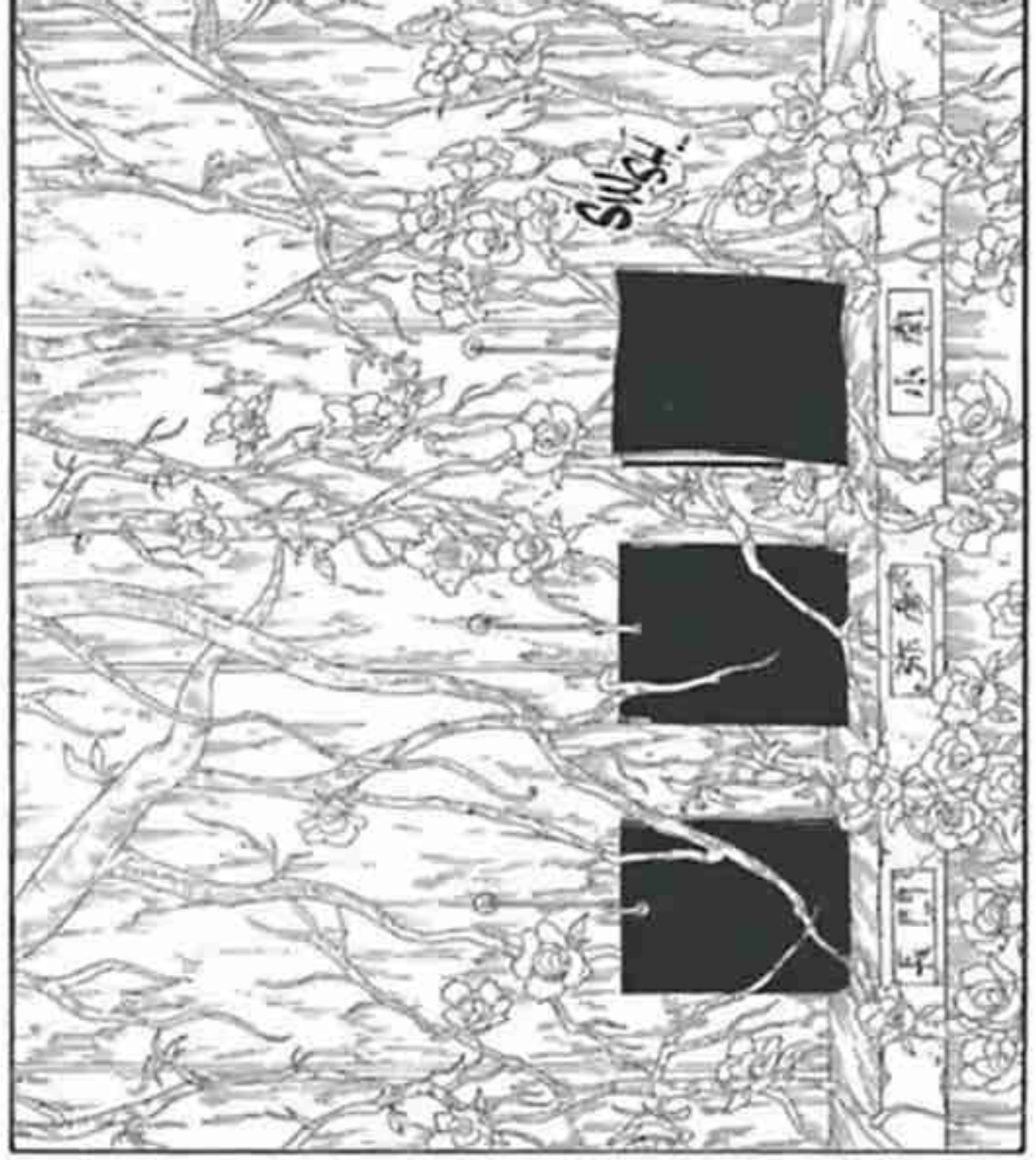
IN THAT CASE, WE OUGHT TO INVITE MASTER JIRAIYA, TOO.



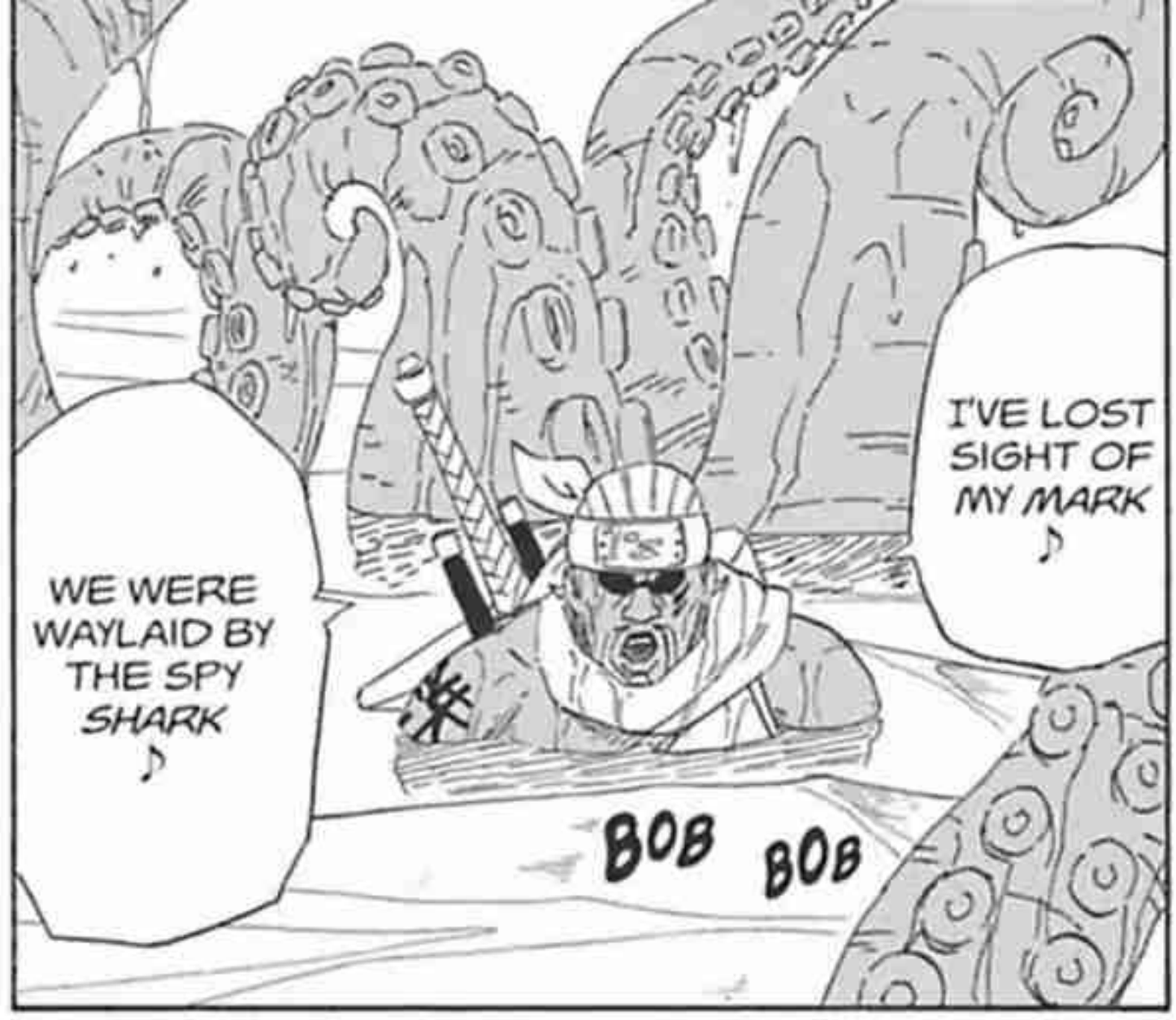




TIME TO GO COLLECT NINE TAILS.


SWISH
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
玉門
新春
山刹

Number 512: The Truth About Zetsu!!


WE WERE WAYLAID BY THE SPY SHARK ♪
I'VE LOST SIGHT OF MY MARK ♪
BOB BOB

SPLAA...SH

MASTER GUY! ARE YOU OKAY? CAN I HELP?!
CHAK
CHAK
RRK
RRK

RRK
RRK

THE SLIGHTEST TOUCH WILL CAUSE HIM INTENSE PAIN!!
HEY! DON'T TOUCH HIM! HE'S EXPERIENCING THE AFTER-EFFECTS OF THE EIGHT INNER GATES.
HIS MUSCLE FIBERS ARE RUPTURED.

?!!
AAARGH !!
URK...

SOFTLY! SOFTLY!!

I'M SORRY!

SHF

THUNK

AAARGH !!

FLAP

TMP
FAIL! FOOLS ♪ YA FOOLS ♪
BEE! HOW WAS IT?
FLAP
FLAP
!

W-WOW, YOU'RE IMMENSE!
BECAUSE IT'S ACTUALLY ...

IT'S NOT ON ANY MAP.
EVEN IF YOU KNOW IT EXISTS, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND.
KEEP THEM ON THE ISLAND?

...A MOBILE STRONG-HOLD, AN ISLAND THAT CAN MOVE.

I? BUT I AM JUST A WEE TURTLE!
WAIT, DOES THAT MEAN SOME ARE BIGGER THAN YOU?!

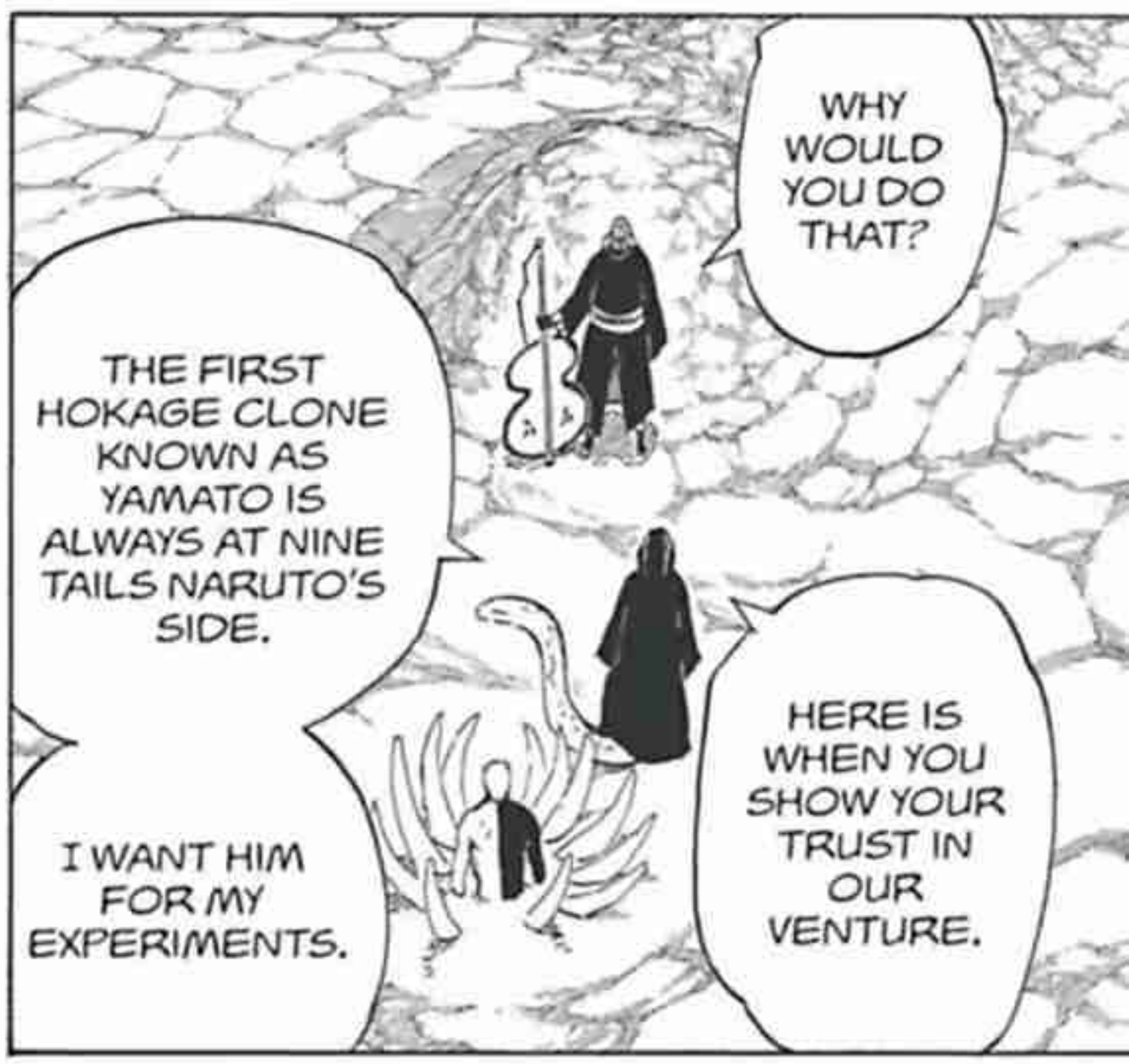
IT'S A MASSIVE TURTLE THAT KUMOGAKURE HAS BEEN REARING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES.

SWOOO...

I WILL GO TO NINE TAILS' AND EIGHT TAILS' LOCATION.

WAIT...

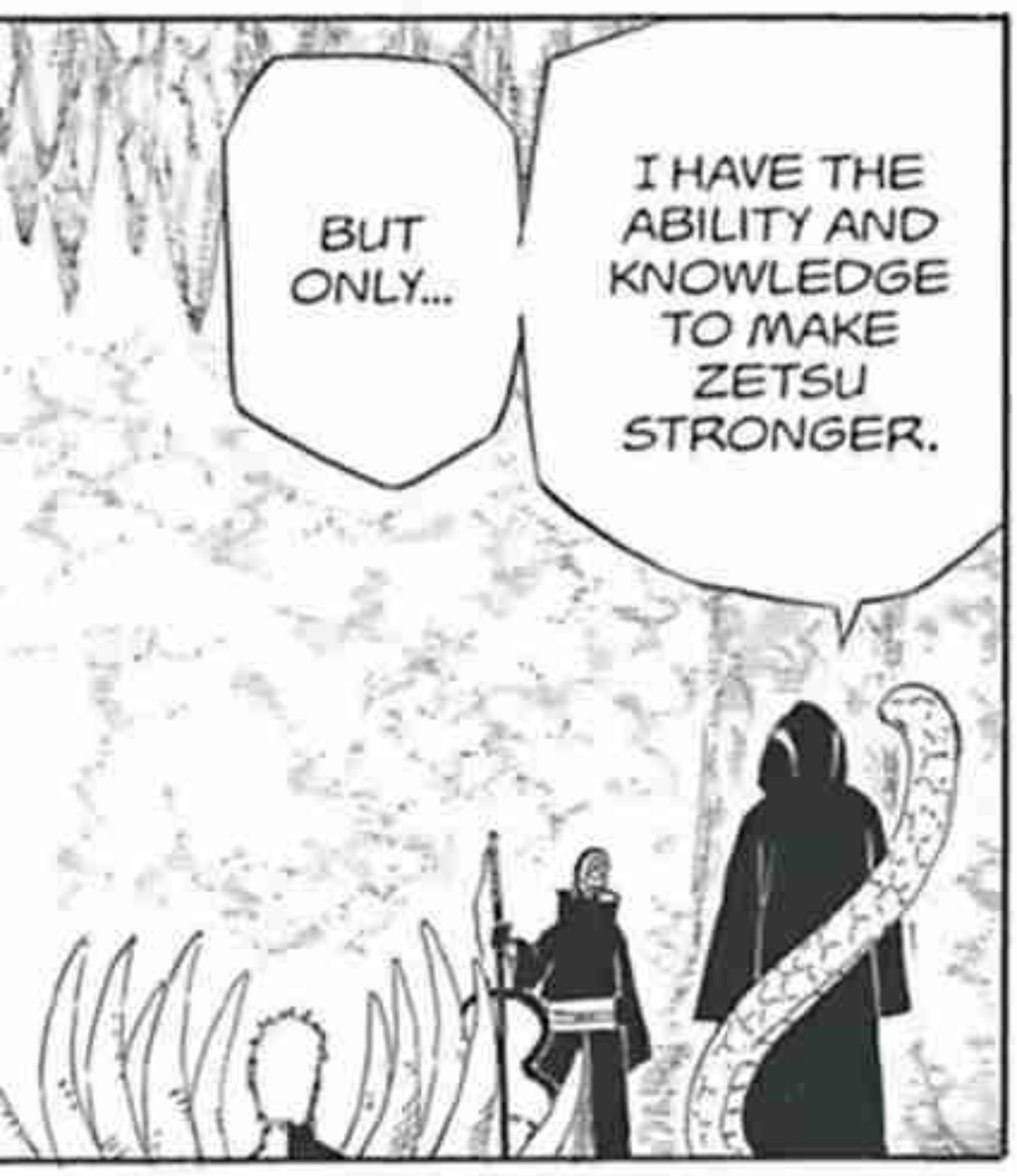
IT WON'T DELAY TEN TAILS' RESURRECTION IN THE SLIGHTEST?
IF I CAN'T GET HIM, I CAN MAKE DO WITH ZETSU. YOU DON'T MIND SHARING A PIECE OF HIM, DO YOU?


WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?
THE FIRST HOKAGE CLONE KNOWN AS YAMATO IS ALWAYS AT NINE TAILS NARUTO'S SIDE.
HERE IS WHEN YOU SHOW YOUR TRUST IN OUR VENTURE.
I WANT HIM FOR MY EXPERIMENTS.

HEH
...

OROCHIMARU KEPT YOU FULL OF STOLEN INTEL.
YOU SEEM TO BE VERY INFORMED.

...


BUT ONLY...
I HAVE THE ABILITY AND KNOWLEDGE TO MAKE ZETSU STRONGER.

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?!

KISAME'S INTEL TOLD US THE ALLIED SHINOBI FORCES ARE 80,000 STRONG. AND NOW WE KNOW THEIR FORMATION PATTERN.
BUT THE REAL KEY TO OUR ARMY IS ZETSU.

TOBI... NO WAY?! YOU'RE REALLY GONNA TRUST HIM?!
NEOO...

...IF YOU TAKE ME THERE.

COME WITH ME.
TAK

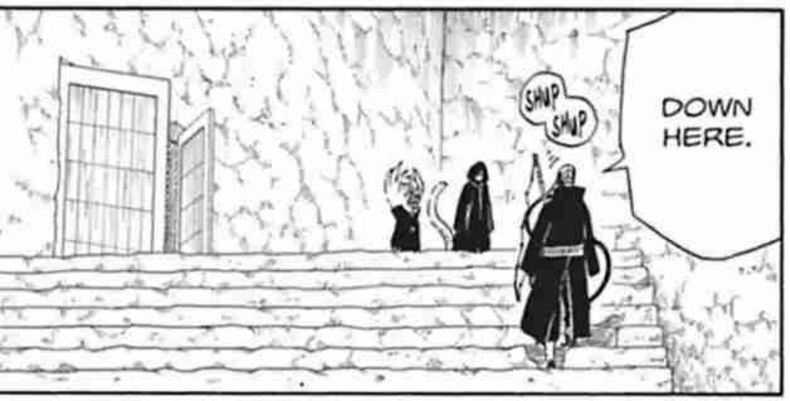
IF YOU CATCH NINE TAILS FOR ME, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE ZETSU.

...

SO THIS...

G-G-
!

GH
DN
K...

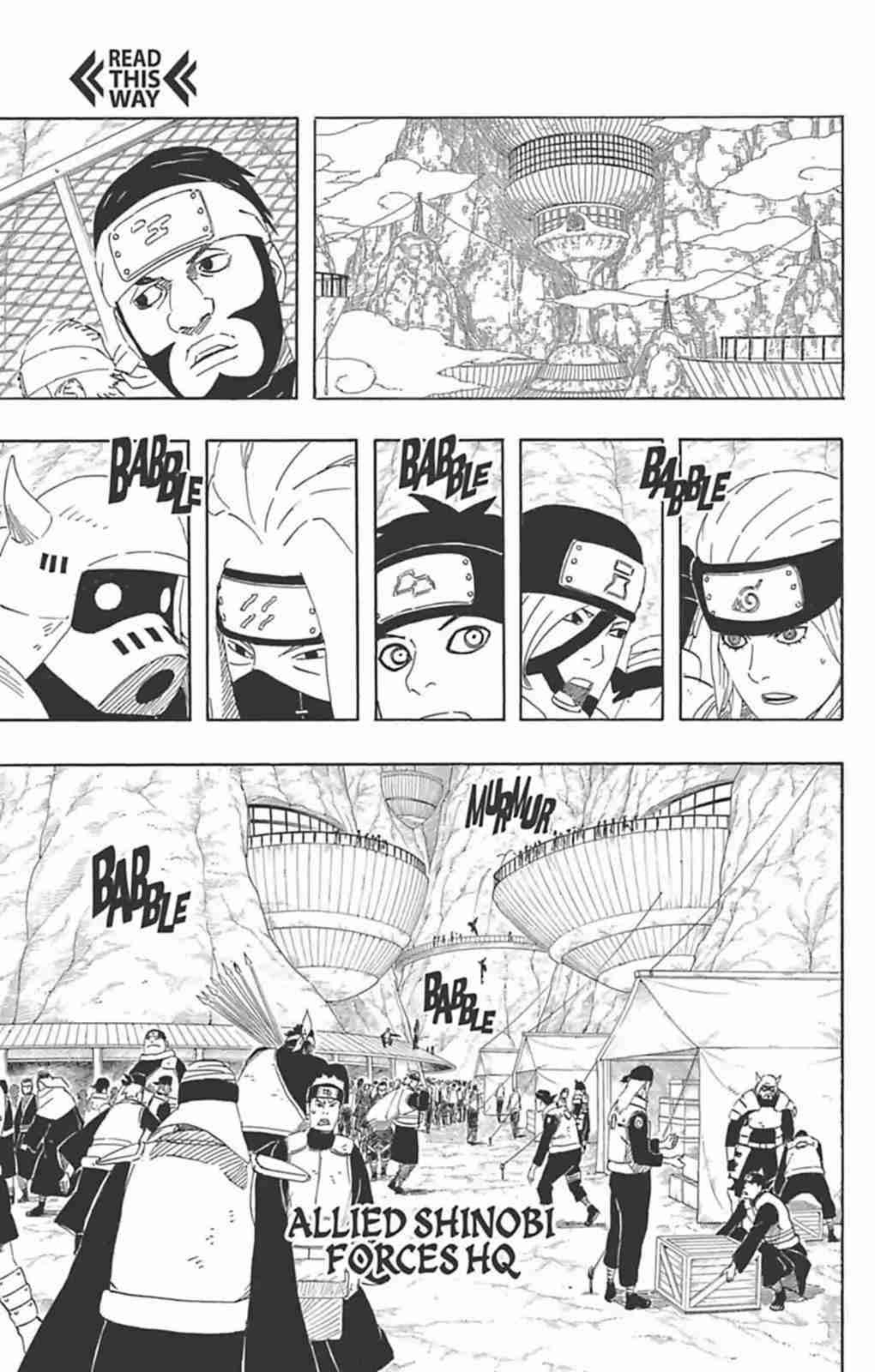

SHUP SHUP
DOWN HERE.

IT'S ALIVE...
YES.

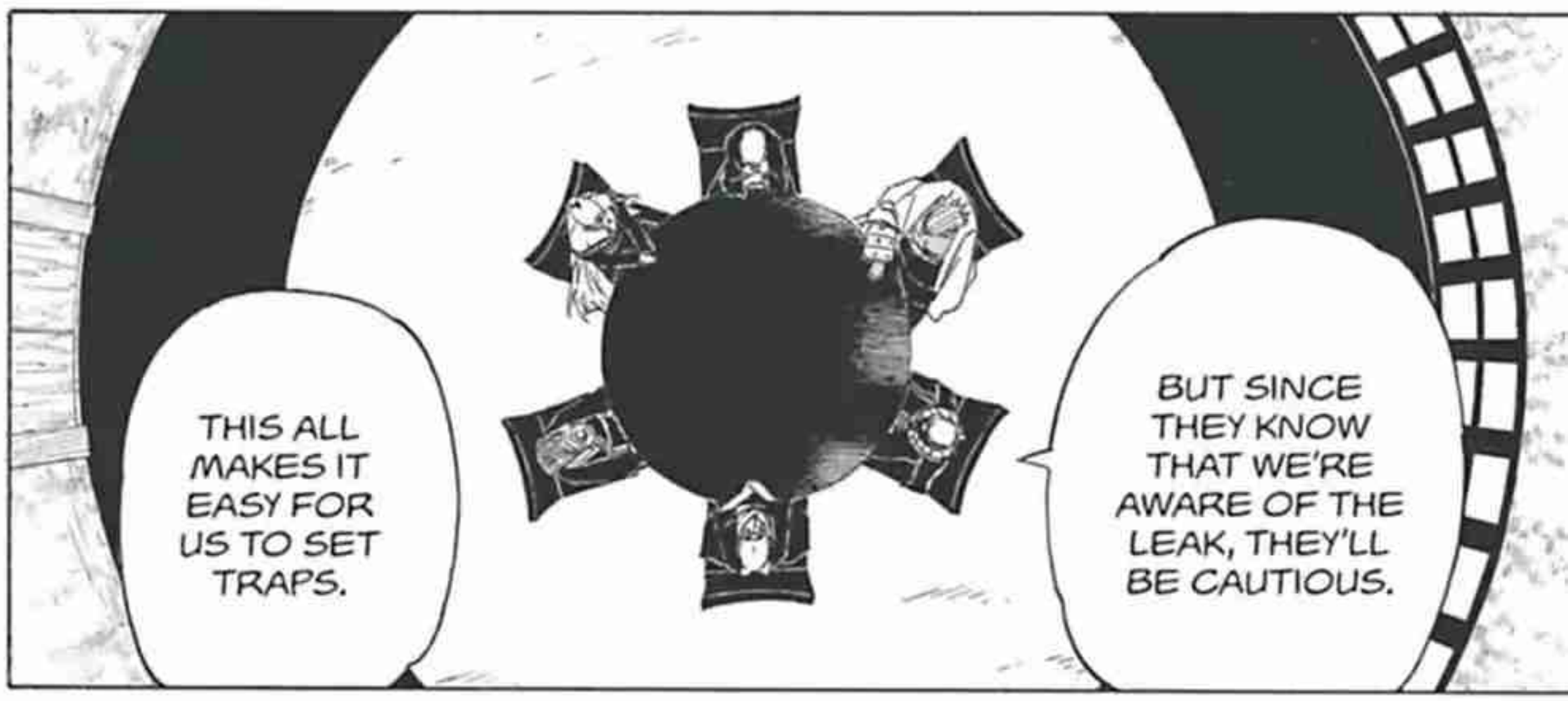
THIS IS...!
!

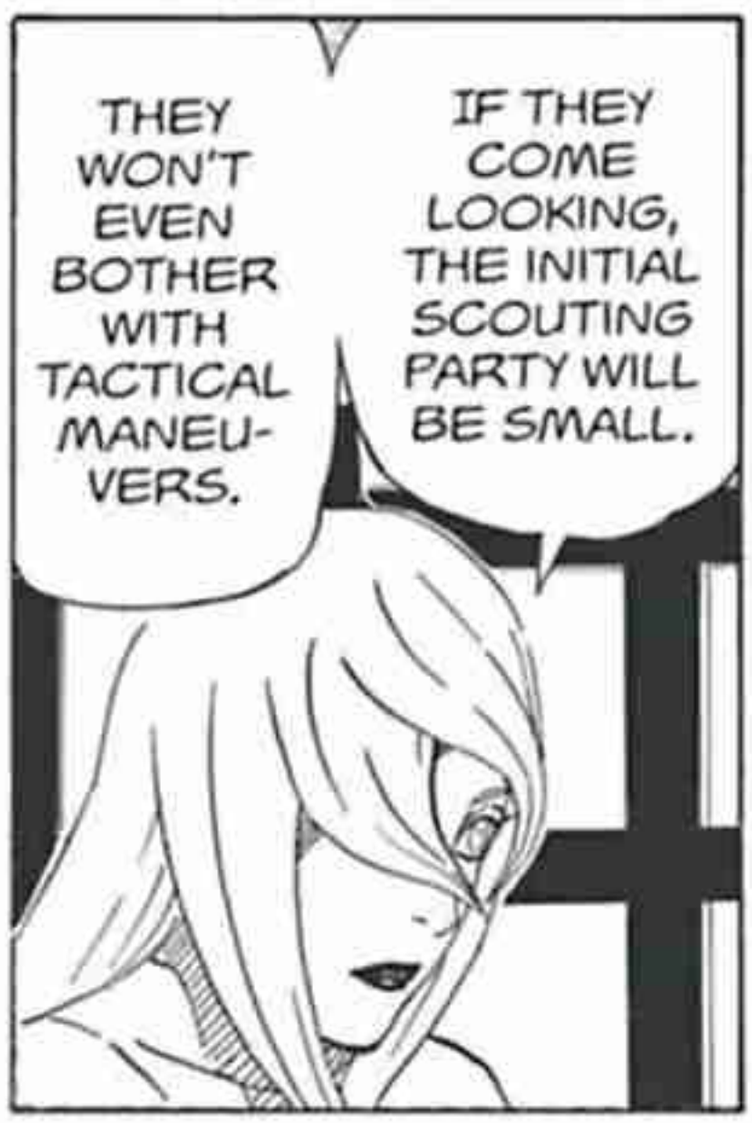
...IS THE GEDO STATUE.

FIRST HOKAGE SENJU HASHIRAMA.


READ THIS WAY
BABBLE
BABBLE
BABBLE
BABBLE
MURMUR
ALLIED SHINOBI FORCES HQ

...WE'LL HAVE TO REFORMULATE OUR TACTICS.
TO HAVE AN INTEL LEAK NOW...


THIS ALL MAKES IT EASY FOR US TO SET TRAPS.
BUT SINCE THEY KNOW THAT WE'RE AWARE OF THE LEAK, THEY'LL BE CAUTIOUS.


THEY WON'T EVEN BOTHER WITH TACTICAL MANEUVERS.
IF THEY COME LOOKING, THE INITIAL SCOUTING PARTY WILL BE SMALL.

CLOUD COVER WILL KEEP THE ENEMY FROM FINDING IT.
I SET UP A CONTINGENCY PLAN. I PLOTTED A VERY SPECIFIC ROUTE FOR THE ISLAND TO FOLLOW.

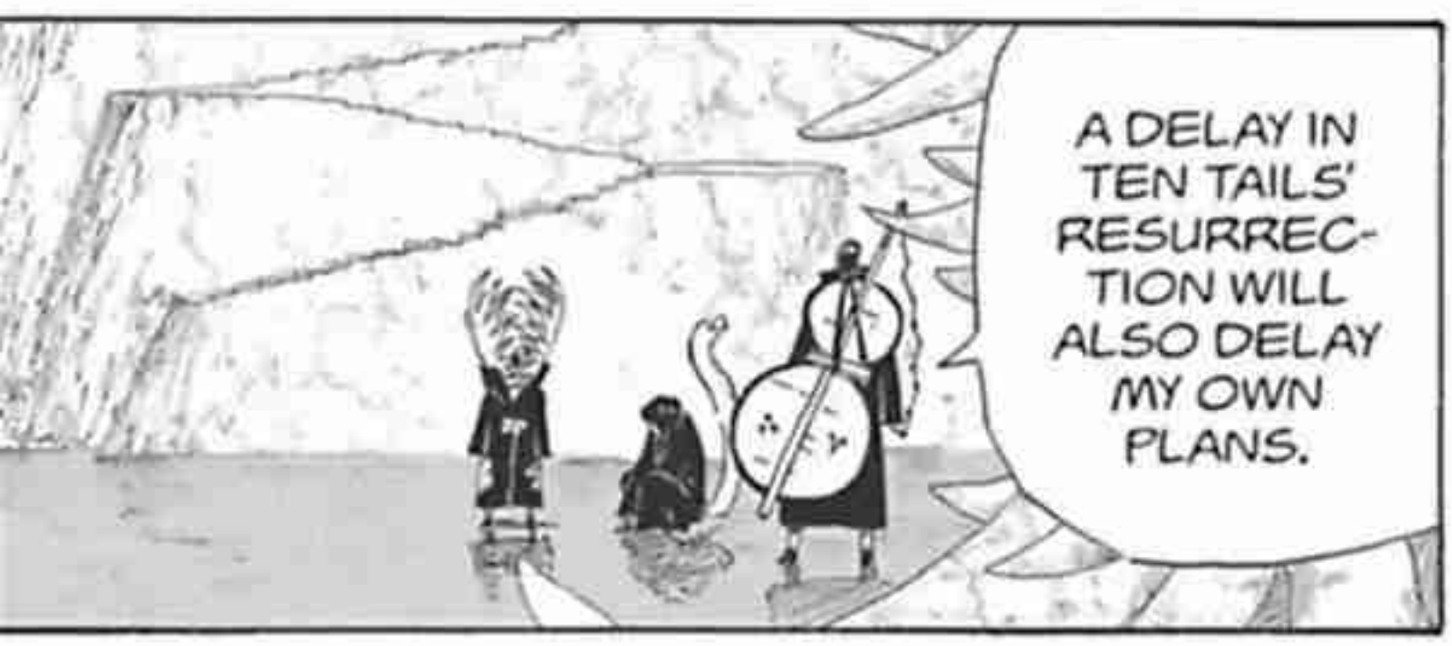
EVEN IF IT CAN MOVE, WE CAN'T RELAX.
WHAT ABOUT THE ISLAND?
THEY WILL COME LOOKING FOR THOSE TWO.

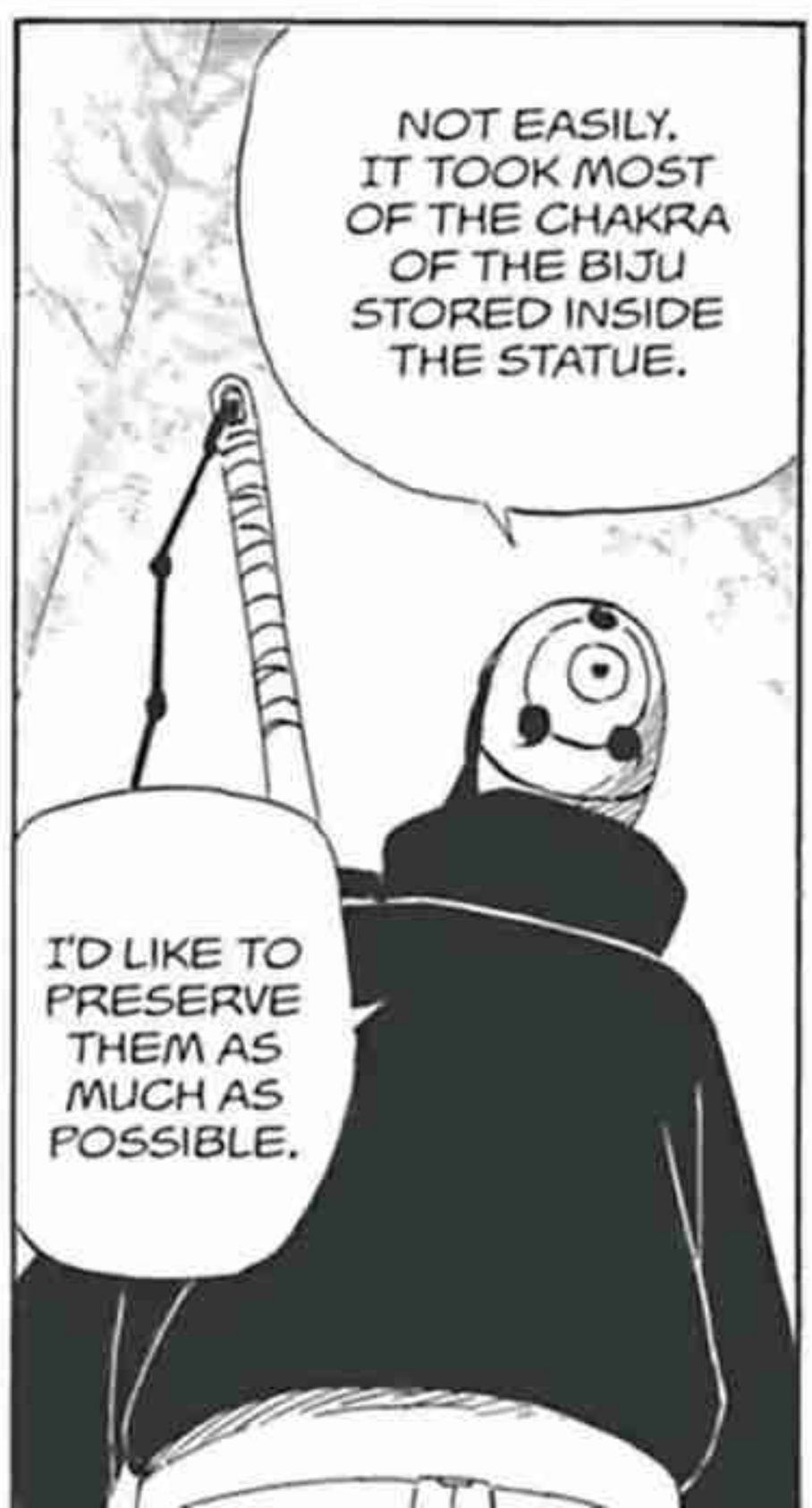
BUT ONLY A SMALL, CRACK UNIT SO AS NOT TO AROUSE SUSPICION.
WE MUST ALSO SEND REINFORCE-MENTS.

EVEN IF WE MOVE THEM, WE CAN'T LET OUR GUARD DOWN. THEY'LL SEARCH EVERYWHERE.
I'M SURE KISAME HAS MARKED THE ISLAND'S COORDINATES ON A MAP.

HOW DID YOU...?
THIS IS INCRED-IBLE.

SPLISH


A DELAY IN TEN TAILS' RESURREC-TION WILL ALSO DELAY MY OWN PLANS.

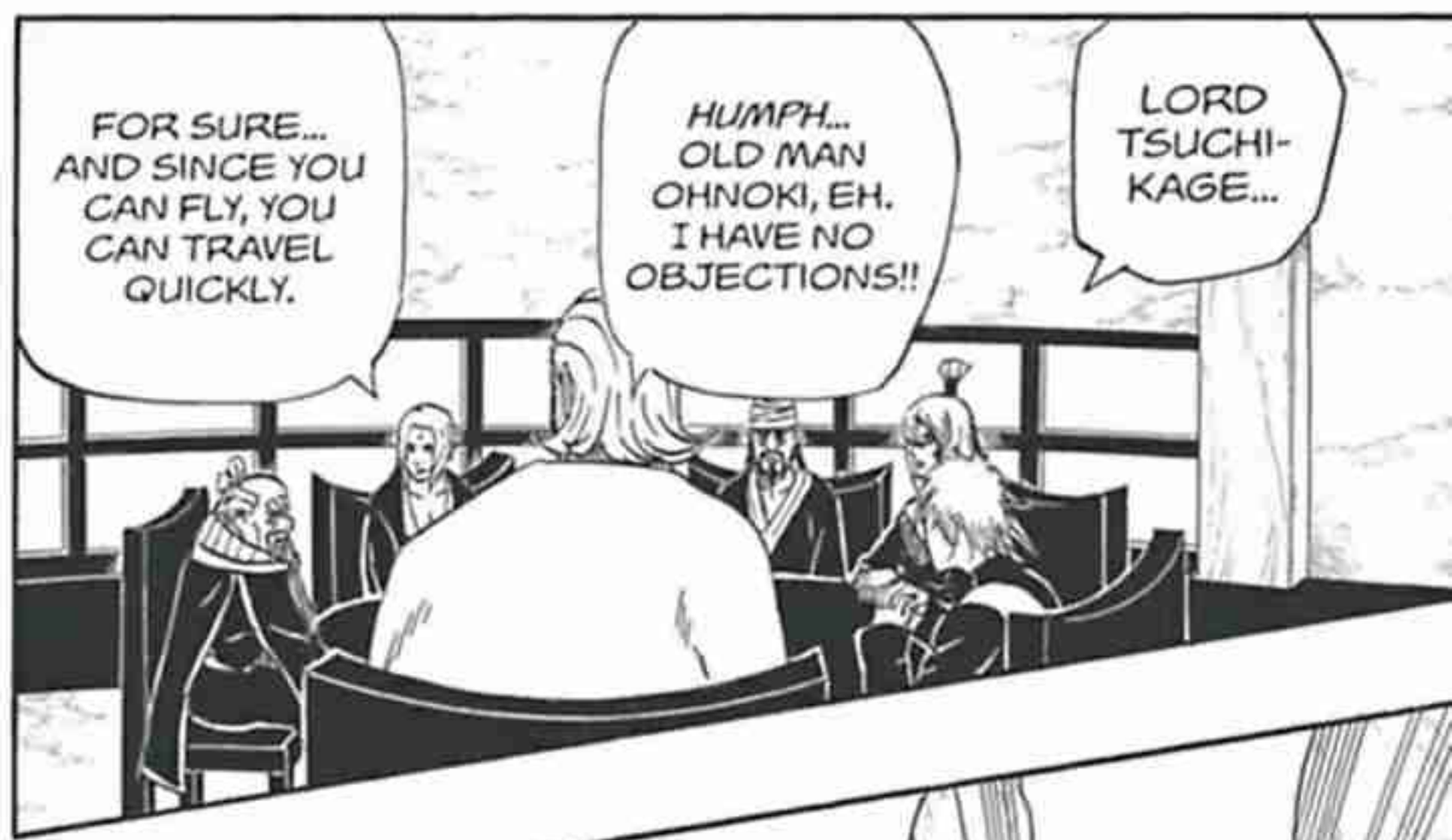

NOT EASILY. IT TOOK MOST OF THE CHAKRA OF THE BIJU STORED INSIDE THE STATUE.
I'D LIKE TO PRESERVE THEM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

...
ABOUT ...
HOW MANY IS THIS?

...A HUNDRED THOUSAND.

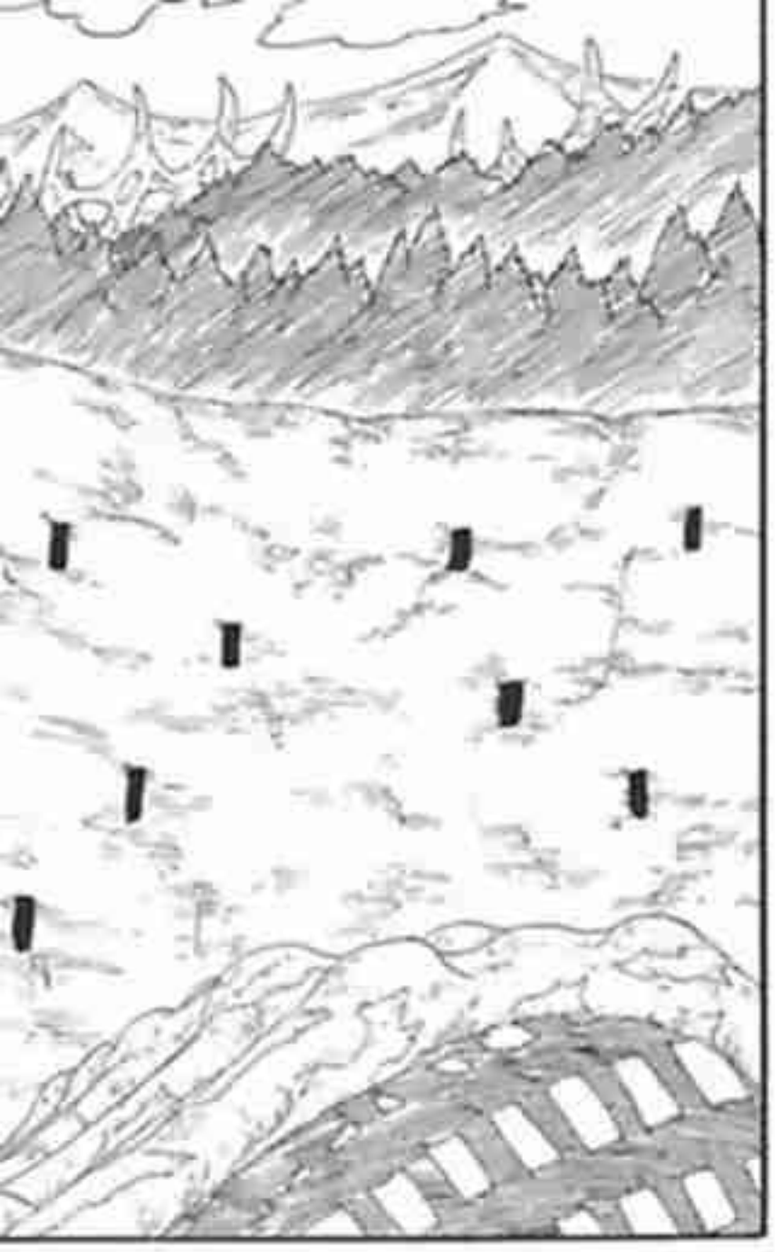
I'LL GO!!

CAN YOU DO THIS?
...


FOR SURE... AND SINCE YOU CAN FLY, YOU CAN TRAVEL QUICKLY.
HUMPH... OLD MAN OHNOKI, EH. I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS!!
LORD TSUCHI-KAGE...

GR
K

I AM OHNOKI, BEARER OF THE TITLE TSUCHIKAGE, ONCE FEARED AS THE GREAT FENCE-SITTER!!
WORRY NOT, KAZE-KAGE!
KLATTER



AAAARGH!!!
GAK
N-NO, FOOL! I TOLD YOU I WOULD GO, AND I SHALL GO!!! YOU MUST RESPECT OHNOKI, THE FENCE...
I'LL GO. MY SAND CAN CARRY ME THERE QUICKLY.
AAAARGH!! MY BACK!!!

WE'LL HEAD OUT NOW.
YOU BOTH RELAX.

NARUTO

SPLOO POSH...

IT'S ALL OCEAN FROM HERE ON OUT. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FLY.

Number 513: Kabuto vs. Tsuchikage!!

Fizzzz...

SWOO

SINCE I DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT ART **OR** YOU...

MY JUTSU IS DIFFERENT THAN MASTER OROCHI-MARU'S.

YOU WON'T BE COMPLETELY HELD BACK, DEIDARA.

THAT LAST EXPLOSION OF YOURS NEVER REALLY **HIT** THE WAY YOU INTENDED, DID IT?

I ALREADY TOLD YOU! MY ART IS NOT EASILY UNDERSTOOD!! IT TAKES TIME...!! A LONG TIME... GRR... *HMM...?*

BUT I **AM** GRATEFUL TO YOU...

YOU'VE ALREADY DEVELOPED ONE ULTIMATE ART. NOW YOU CAN CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO EVEN GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS!

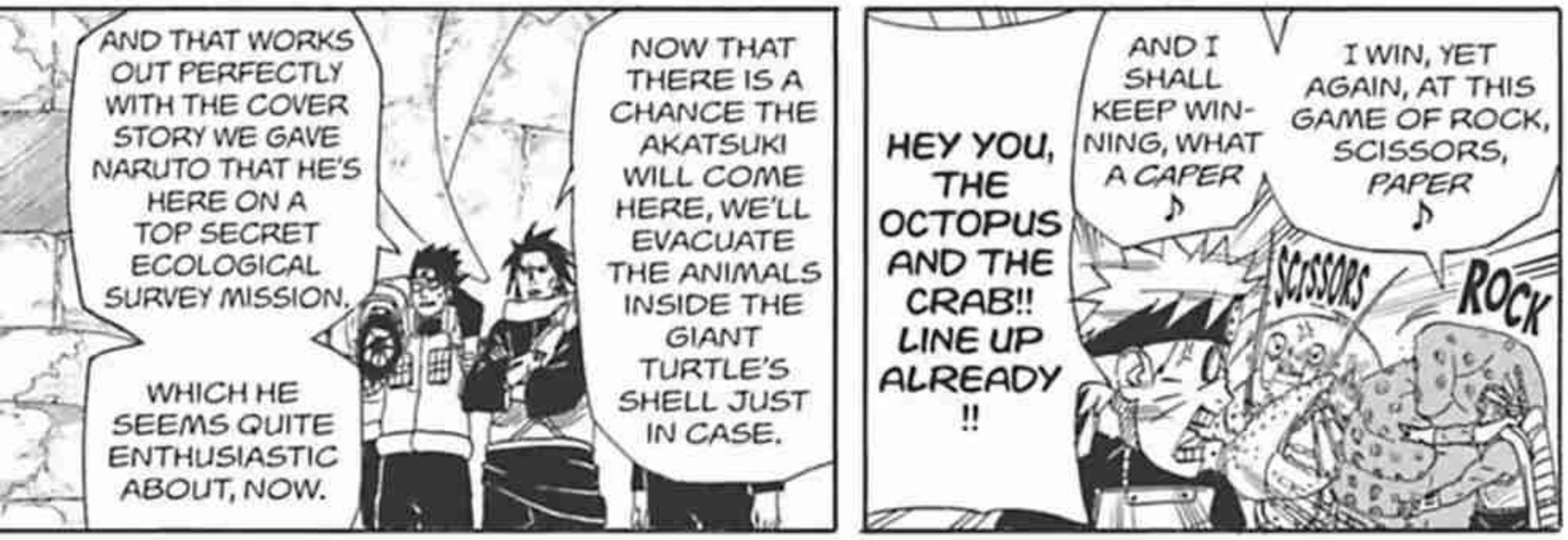
...HMM?

WELL, SURE... MY ARTISTIC NINJUTSU IS NOT EASY TO UNDERSTAND OR APPRECIATE...

LINE UP SINGLE FILE, I SAID!!

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE SHUFFLE

YEESH...!!



DEZOOM
SO IT'S NOT MADARA, AFTER ALL.
YOU'RE A DOPPEL-GANGER, EH!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS BIRD AND DEIDARA OVER THERE?
FLAP
FLAP
IF I RECALL, THIS MAN IS...
A LOUSY PUNCH.
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY AMBUSH IS THE TSUCHIKAGE.
HEH
ZWOP

READ THIS WAY
IT'S REALLY HIM.
ZW ZW
A CLAY DOPPEL-GANGER...
YOU TOO!
FSH
HEY THERE, OLD MAN. BEEN A WHILE!

COOOOOOOOOOOO~!!

KA BOOM

THIS ONE'S ALWAYS BEEN REAL *SHY* ♪

WHO'S TO SAY IF IT'S A GIRL OR A *GUY* ♪

FSH

HEY, OCTOPOPS, I CAN'T TELL IF THIS ONE'S A BOY OR A GIRL. IT'S ALL CURLED UP.

LET'S SAY IT'S A GIRL AND FINISH THIS *BIZ* ♪

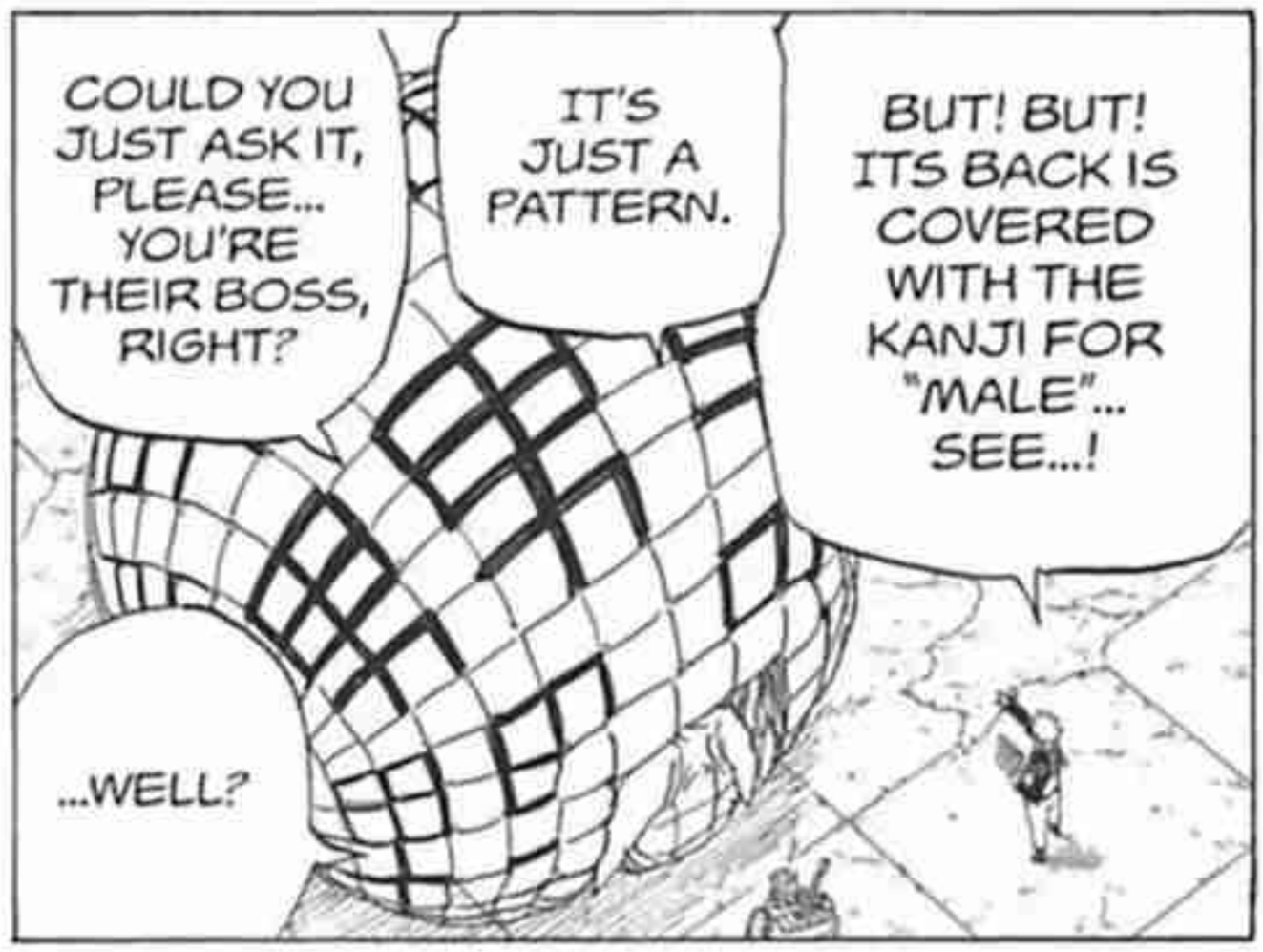
IT DON'T REALLY MATTER WHICH IT *IS* ♪

...

AN ECO-LOGICAL SURVEY!!

BUT I GOTTA! THIS IS AN S-RANKED TOP SECRET MISSION!!

COO COO
...
BOING


COULD YOU JUST ASK IT, PLEASE... YOU'RE THEIR BOSS, RIGHT?
IT'S JUST A PATTERN.
BUT! BUT! ITS BACK IS COVERED WITH THE KANJI FOR "MALE"... SEE...!
...WELL?

BUT THE HEAVENS AND EARTH NEVER TRADE PLACES! FOOL, YA FOOL!
MALE AND FEMALE... SOME SPECIES CAN SWITCH BETWEEN BOTH.

GAH! THIS MISSION IS REALLY LIVING UP TO ITS S RANKING...
OR IS IT?!! GRR!!
OH, REALLY?! I SEE!!
IT SAYS ITS PRIVATES ARE A PRIVATE MATTER ♪
I RK

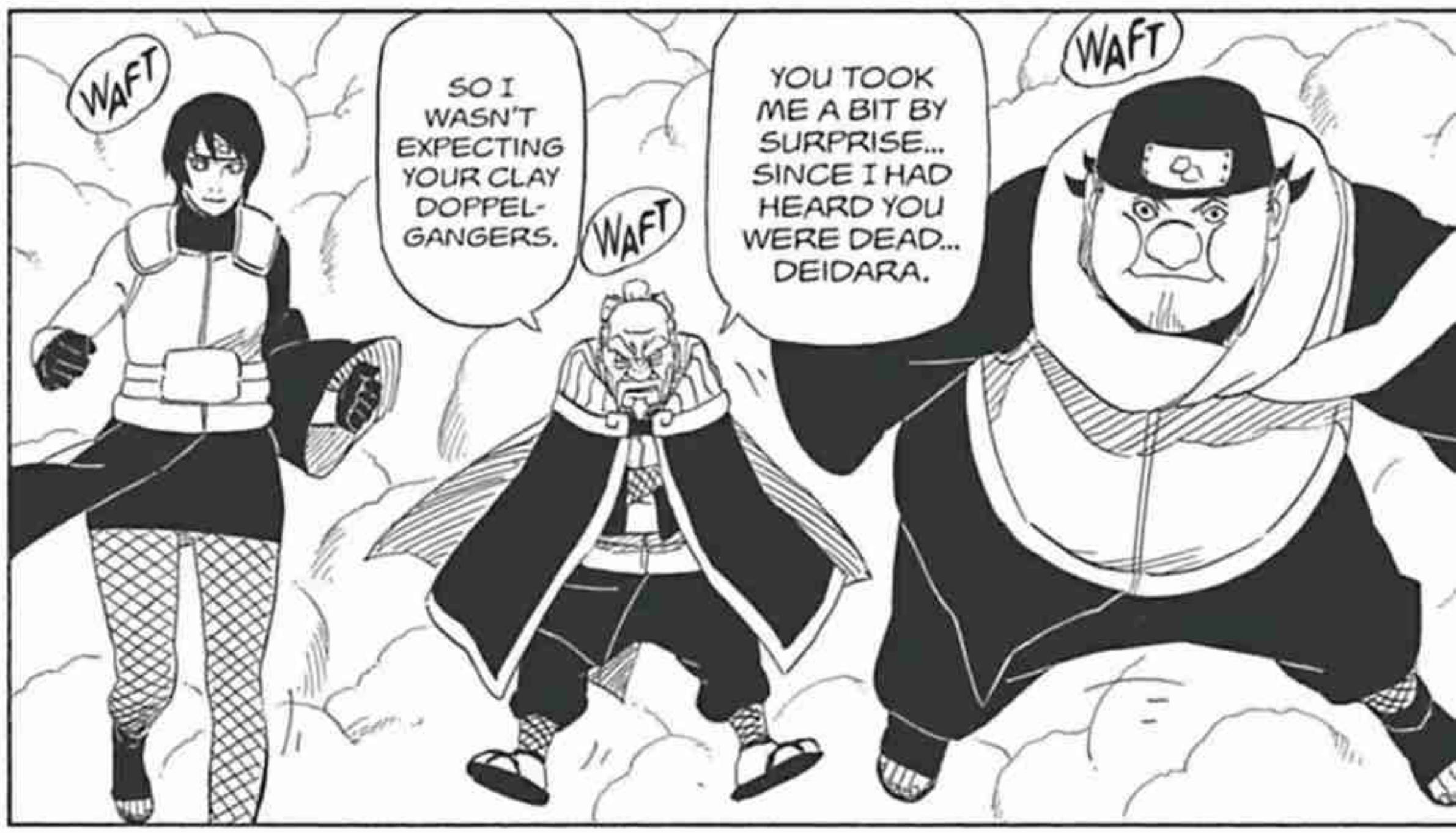
!

WOOSH

...AND... IT'S NOT HUMAN...!
!!
WHAT'S THE MATTER ?
WHAT THE...? SOMETHING IS AP-PROACHING AT HIGH SPEED...!

GLUB GLUB

BLOP BLOP BLOP


WAFT
SO I WASN'T EXPECTING YOUR CLAY DOPPEL-GANGERS.
WAFT
YOU TOOK ME A BIT BY SURPRISE... SINCE I HAD HEARD YOU WERE DEAD... DEIDARA.
WAFT

A STONE DOPPELGANGER OF THE TSUCHIKAGE... WE WERE THINKING THE SAME THING... HMM?!
SO THAT WAS...

DON'T GET TOO EXCITED, AKA-TSUCHI!
THAT'S A JUTSU OF OROCHIMARU'S CALLED THE EDOTENSEI, WHERE HE LOOKS LIKE HE WAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE, BUT IT'S NOT THE REAL DEAL.
...GAH, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE EVEN CAUSING TROUBLE IN DEATH!

BROTHER DEIDARA! YOU DIED IN A SHOWY EXPLOSION, SO HOW COME YOU'RE ALIVE?!
DID YOU PERHAPS NOT DIE, AFTER ALL?

YOU THINK YOU'RE STALLING US?
I KNEW YOU WERE LYING IN AMBUSH. ...DID YOU REALLY THINK I WOULD COME SAUNTERING IN HERE WITHOUT A PLAN?

IT SEEMS HE DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING...
ENOUGH! YOU'RE BOTH MINE!!

YOU RETURN TO LIFE... SEEKING TO MITIGATE THE SHAME OF BEING DONE IN BY A KONOHA STRIPLING?!
YOU'RE NEXT, GEEZER! YOU WHO MOCKED AND INSULTED MY ART, HMM!!
SHUT UP!! I KILLED UCHIHA SASUKE! HMM?!

INCON-CEIV-ABLE...!
NO WAY! DON'T TELL ME WE'VE ALREADY BEEN FOUND OUT?!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

WAAA

AAH

SPLASH

SPLASH

RAWR !!!

!!!

HE'S FOUND THEM.

RAAAAR

?!!

DON'T TELL ME HE'S FOUND THEM?!
!!!

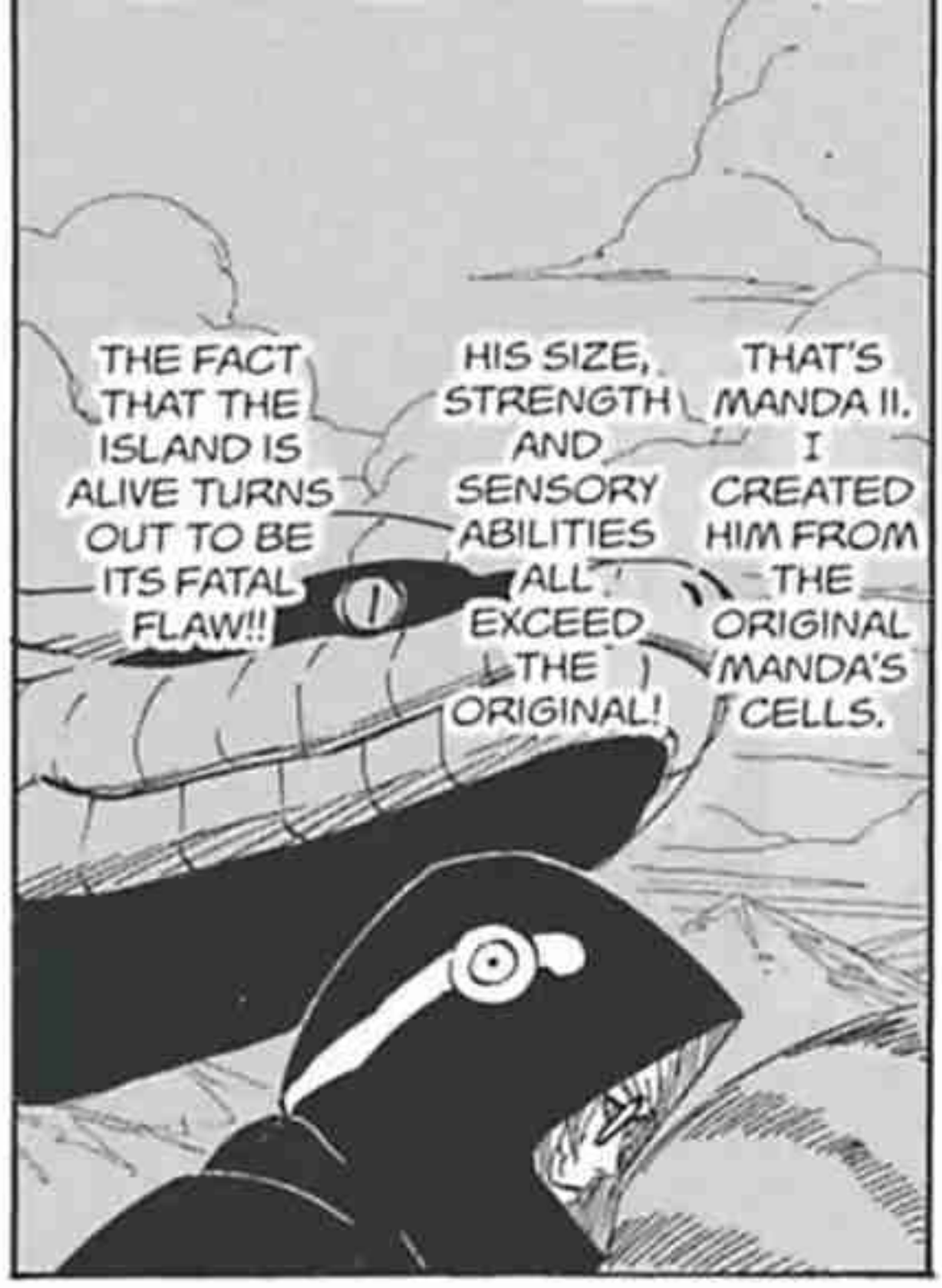
...WHOA, WHAT THE? MY BODY WON'T RESPOND!!
WHY?!!
SORRY, WE NEED TO GO OVER THERE!!
VEER

SHUDDER SHUDDER SHUDDER

WE'RE GIVING CHASE!
YESSIR !!
ROGER !!
TAK

SHUDDER
PITTER
SHUDDER
PITTER
EARTH-QUAKE!!

SHUDDER SHUDDER SHUDDER SHUDDER
!!!
WAAH!!


THE FACT THAT THE ISLAND IS ALIVE TURNS OUT TO BE ITS FATAL FLAW!!
HIS SIZE, STRENGTH AND SENSORY ABILITIES ALL EXCEED THE ORIGINAL!
THAT'S MANDA II. I CREATED HIM FROM THE ORIGINAL MANDA'S CELLS.

GLUB GLUB GLUB

IT'S NOT AN ISLAND. IT'S A GIANT TURTLE, AND IT'S MOVING.
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THAT ISLAND?
AND EIGHT TAILS AND NINE TAILS ARE ON IT.

RAAAAAR
WHAT IS THAT?!

FIRST, WE STOP THAT TURTLE ISLAND!
SO? WHAT'S THE PLAN?!
GIVE ME ONE BIG ONE, DEIDARA.

HMM?!
I SEE! SO THAT LOUT NARUTO'S DOWN THERE, EH!

PLUS EIGHT TAILS AND NINE TAILS?!!
TURTLE ?!
IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO CAPTURE EIGHT TAILS AND NINE TAILS!

SWOO

GAH!!
HE'S SO FAST!!

WAAH!
THUD THUD WAP WAP

SHOO M

SURE.
DO IT!
YEEAHGH!!

SWOOOO
BLOOP...

RAWR!!

KRK KRK...

FW P

DEEP FOREST EMER-GENCE!!

WOOD STYLE!

VOOSH

FMP FMP FMP FMP

THE HEAVENS AND EARTH REALLY DID TRADE PLACES! FOOL, YA FOOL!

OWW! THAT WAS A SERIOUS EARTH-QUAKE!

YOINK

?!!!

WHAM

BOOM

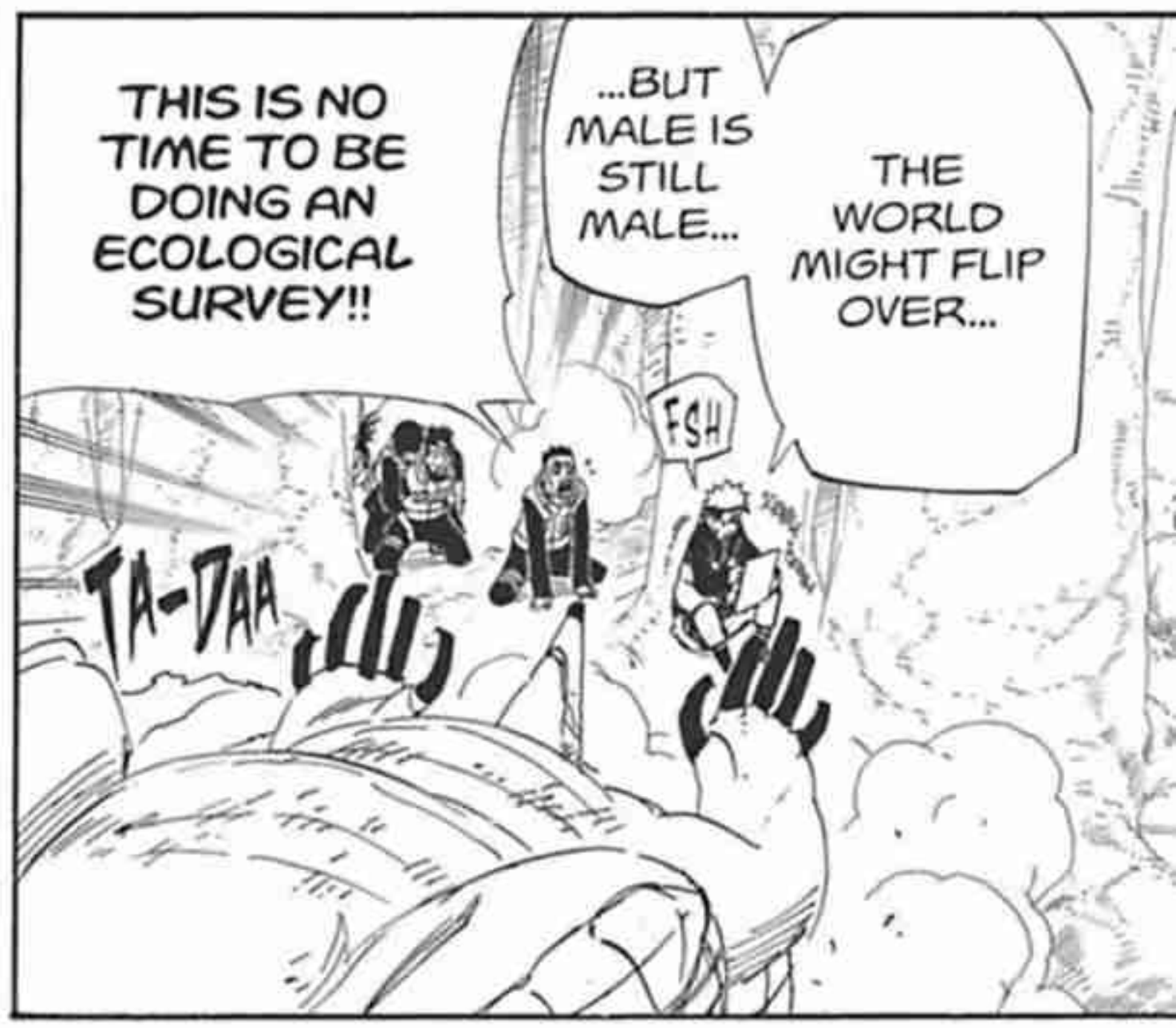
WHIRRR

HE FLIPPED OVER. HE CAN'T MOVE!

SPLOOOSH...

...!

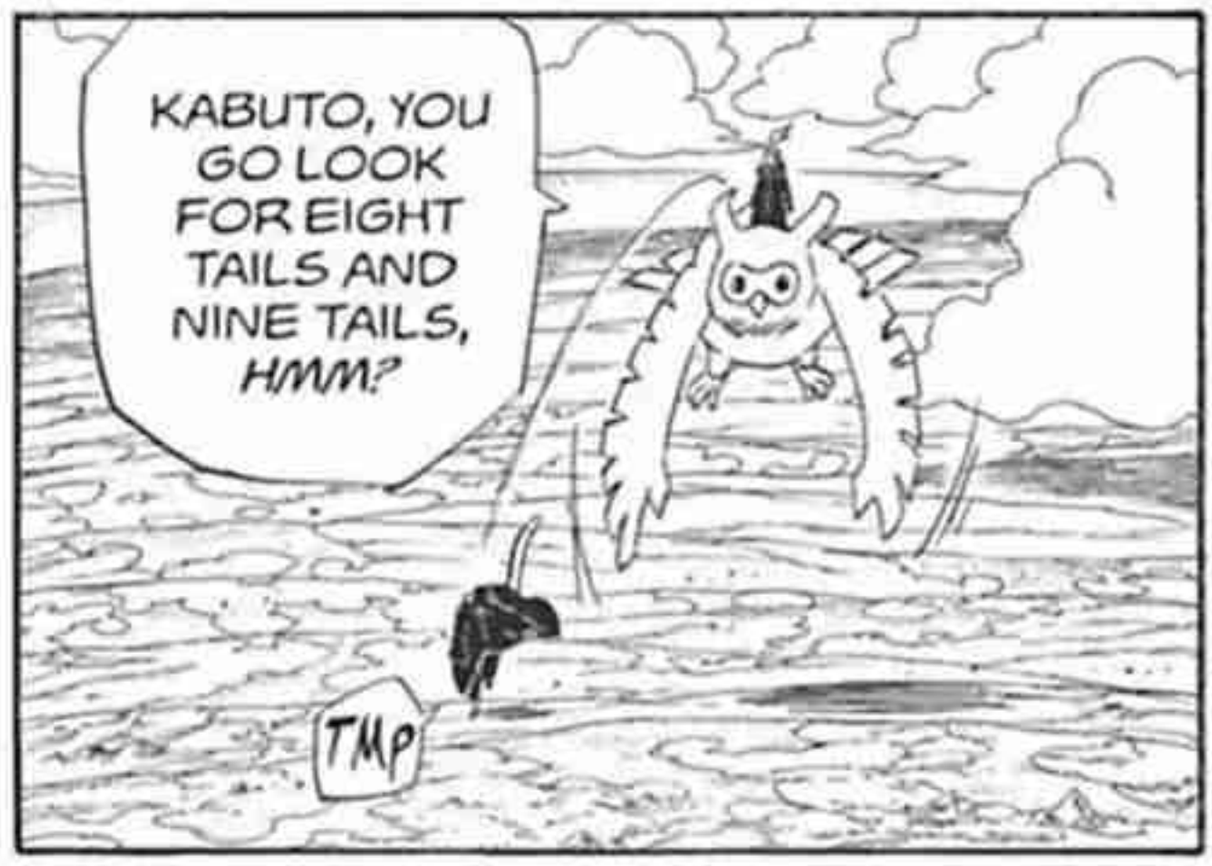
P-PLEASE CALM DOWN, MASTER YAMATO...!
SOMETHING DEFINITELY HAPPENED OUTSIDE... BUT IN HERE, WE MUST KEEP PRETENDING IT WAS AN EARTHQUAKE, PLEASE!


THIS IS NO TIME TO BE DOING AN ECOLOGICAL SURVEY!!
...BUT MALE IS STILL MALE...
THE WORLD MIGHT FLIP OVER...
FSH
TA-DAA

...

WE MUST SOMEHOW HANDLE IT OURSELVES!
LOOK, HE WAS MALE, AFTER ALL!
WE CANNOT LET THOSE TWO GO OUTSIDE...!!

VERY WELL.
I WILL FIGHT THOSE THREE.
I OWE THEM NOTHING LESS.


KABUTO, YOU GO LOOK FOR EIGHT TAILS AND NINE TAILS, HMM?
TMP

THE GEEZER'S SNAPPED.
UH-OH...!

!
DEIDARA, YOU DO REMEMBER, DON'T YOU?
WHOOSH

MY POWER !
FIK
P

NARUTO

Number 514: Kabuto's Plan!!

?!!

AKATSUCHI?!! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

SSSH

WHAP

KA

BOOM

G-G-G...

THAT WAS AKA-TSUCHI'S GOLEM!

STILL ATTACHED TO TSUCHI-KAGE'S HIP, EH! ANNOYING, *HMMM?!*

GOT TO GET HIM AWAY FROM THE ISLAND!

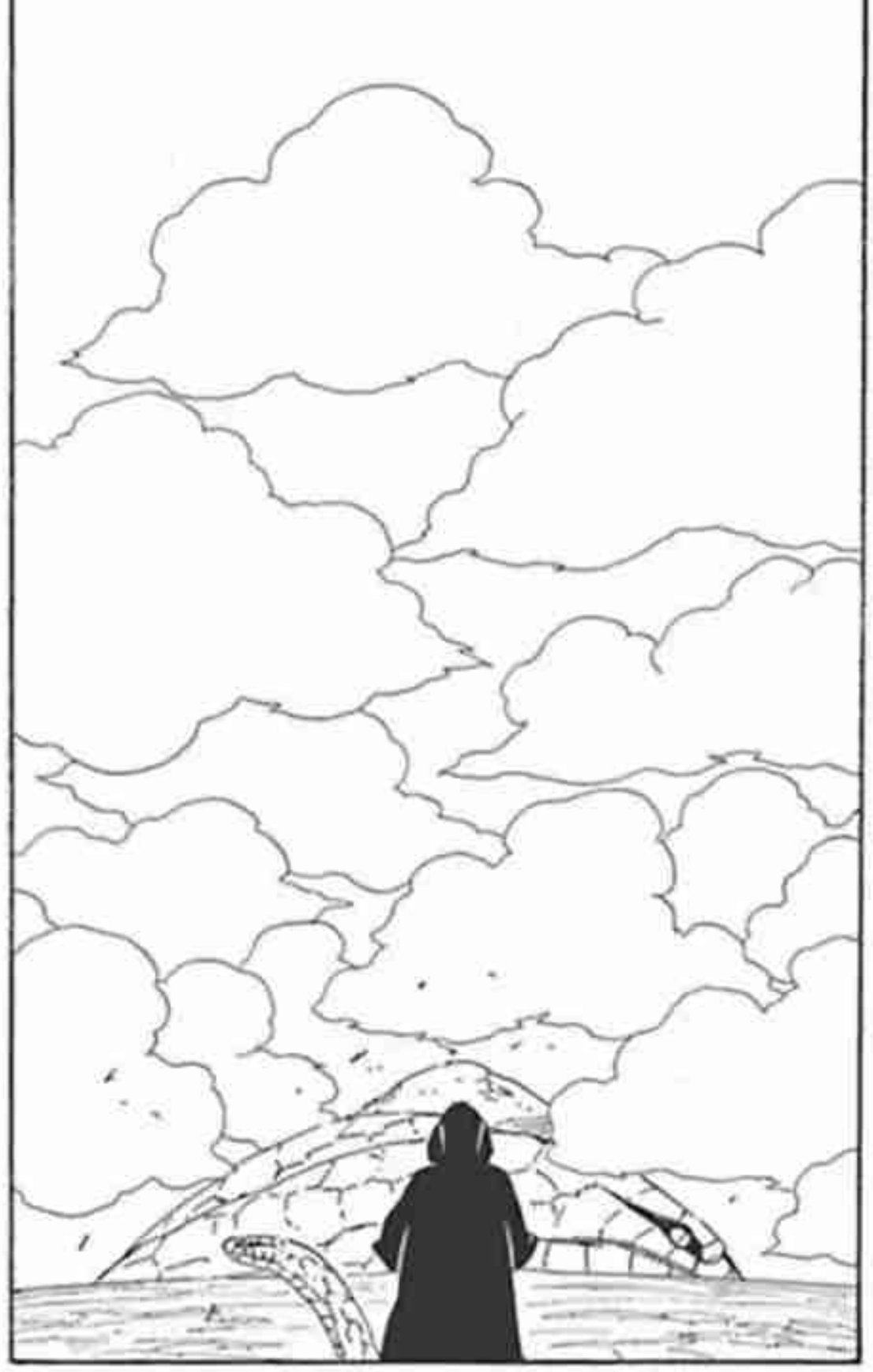
KLATTER KLATTER

KLATTER

THAT SNAKE!!

WHOOSH

RAWR !!



BRRR
BRRR

HE PRETENDS TO MERELY BE OROCHI-MARU'S SPINDLY LACKEY!!
SO HE IS THE ONE MANIPULAT-ING THE SNAKE!

SO THEN... HOW DO WE GET IN?
NARUTO'S INSIDE THAT TURTLE, EH...

!
ZING

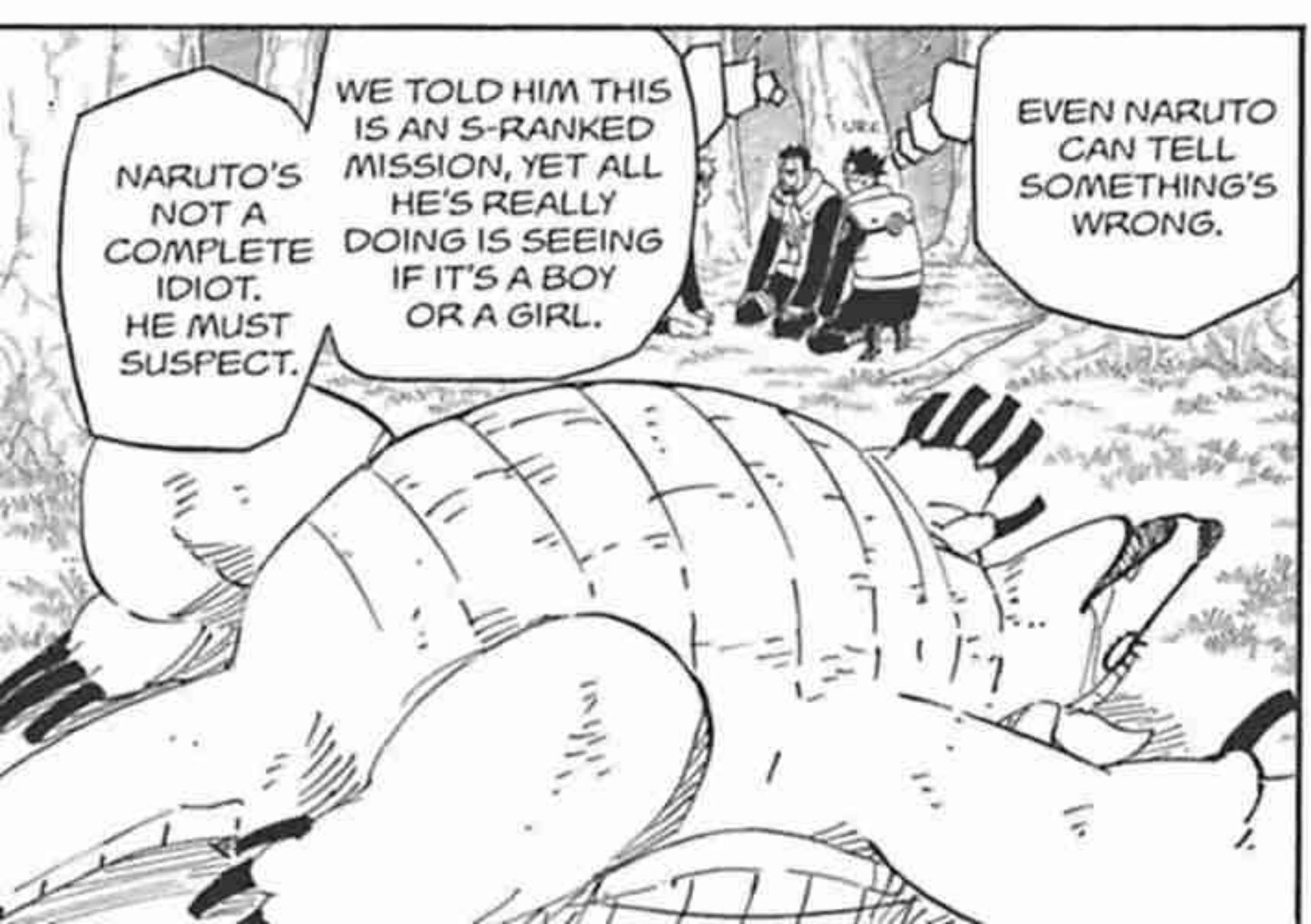
...

THAT WAS JUST AN ILLUSION. NOTHING ACTUALLY FLIPPED.
TOO MANY, I SAY!
AND SINCE WHEN DOES A LITTLE EARTHQUAKE PROBLEM FLIP THE WHOLE WORLD OVER?
FOR REAL?
...

INDEED.
QUITE A LOT OF E-EARTH-QUAKES TODAY, EH...
GAH! WHAT'S HAPPENING OUTSIDE?!
HUH?

THIS MISSION IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! ONLY YOU CAN PERFORM THIS PARTICULAR TASK!
A SHINOBI MUST FULLY COMPLETE EVERY MISSION!
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE, NARUTO!
GRRR

NO...! YOU NEED TO CONTINUE YOUR VITAL S-RANKED MISSION!
LEMME SEE OUTSIDE!!
JUST A PEEK!


NARUTO'S NOT A COMPLETE IDIOT. HE MUST SUSPECT.
WE TOLD HIM THIS IS AN S-RANKED MISSION, YET ALL HE'S REALLY DOING IS SEEING IF IT'S A BOY OR A GIRL.
EVEN NARUTO CAN TELL SOMETHING'S WRONG.

...

PHEW! WE CAN KEEP GOING! I'M GLAD HE'S DENSE!

I'LL FOCUS ON THE MISSION!!

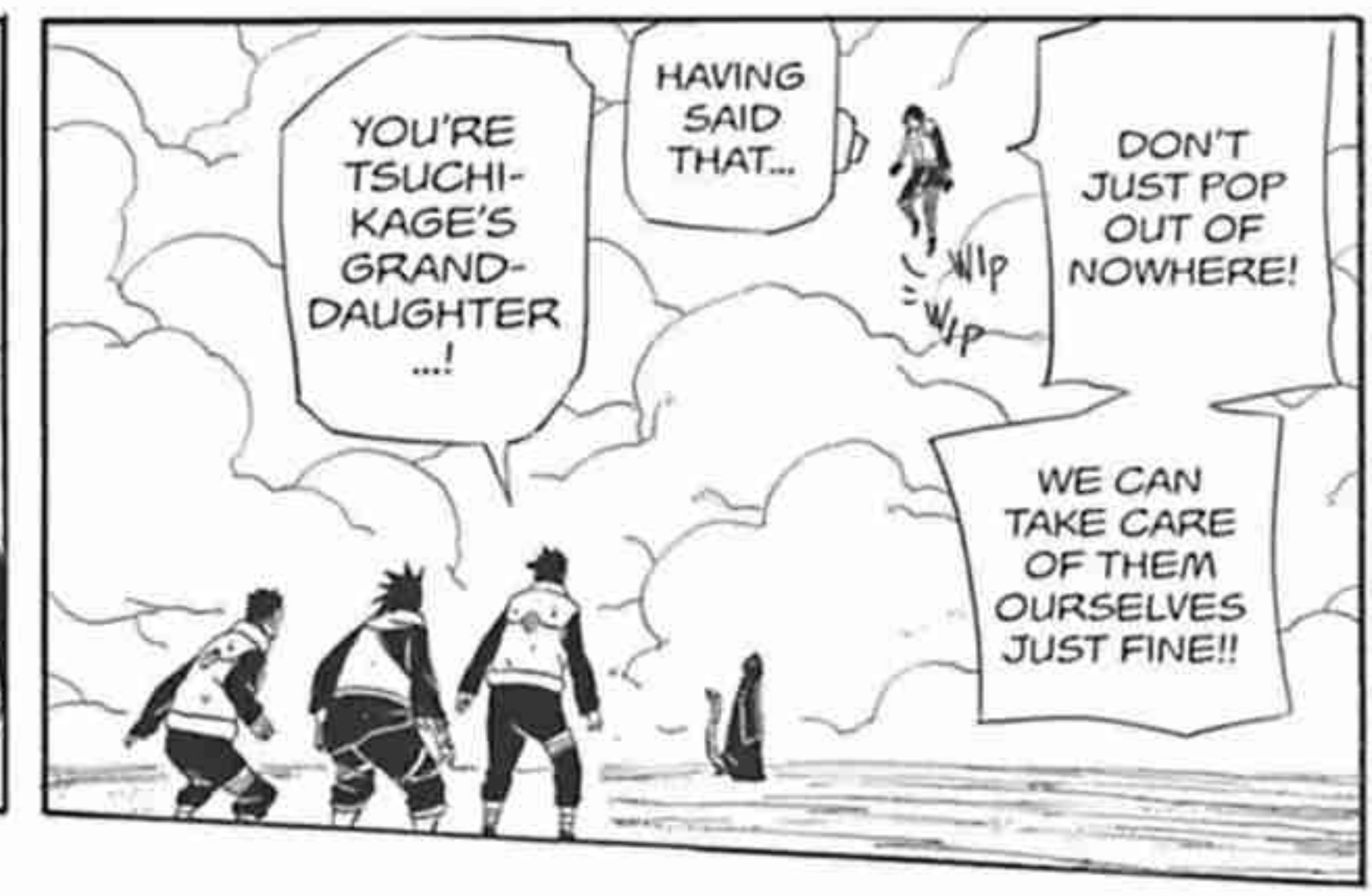
ALL RIGHT! GOTCHA!

WAP

!
THERE SHOULD BE FIVE HUMANS!
THERE!
TMP
TMP
TMP

THERE YOU ARE.
!!
FSH
AOBA TOO, EH...

PERFECT! TAKE ME TO NARUTO.


YOU'RE TSUCHI-KAGE'S GRAND-DAUGHTER ...!
HAVING SAID THAT...
WIP
WIP
DON'T JUST POP OUT OF NOWHERE!
WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM OURSELVES JUST FINE!!

I'LL SWEEP HIM YOUR WAY, SO CATCH HIM!!
POOF
KLAP

WE MEET AGAIN, YAMATO.
SSH...

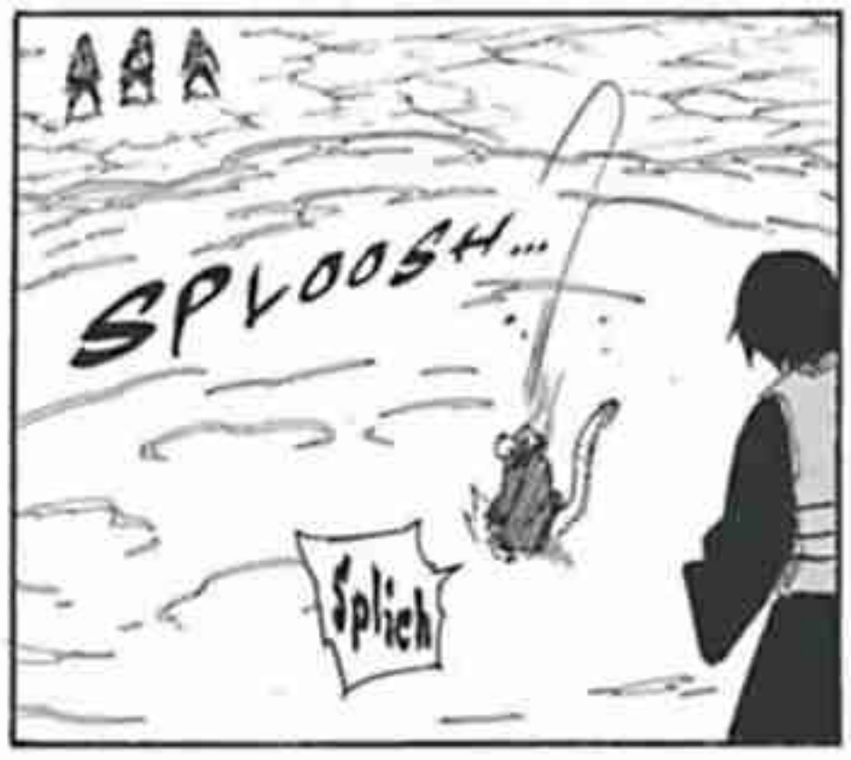
SNAKES! THAT VOICE!
YOU'RE...

WATER STYLE! WATER TRUMPET!!

SPLAA

TAK

NICE!!



WATER SPREADS IT AND HELPS IT BOND!
MY QUICKLIME SOLIDIFIES FAST!
FOOL!
NOW YOU CAN'T MOVE!!
FSH!!

?
?
THIS IS...

I SEE...
...

SPLAT
SPLAT SPLAT

Squitch

MOTOI, AOBA! DON'T STEP IN THE WATER!

I'LL GO EXTRACT INTEL FROM HIM!
NOW YOU'RE OURS!
GOOD!

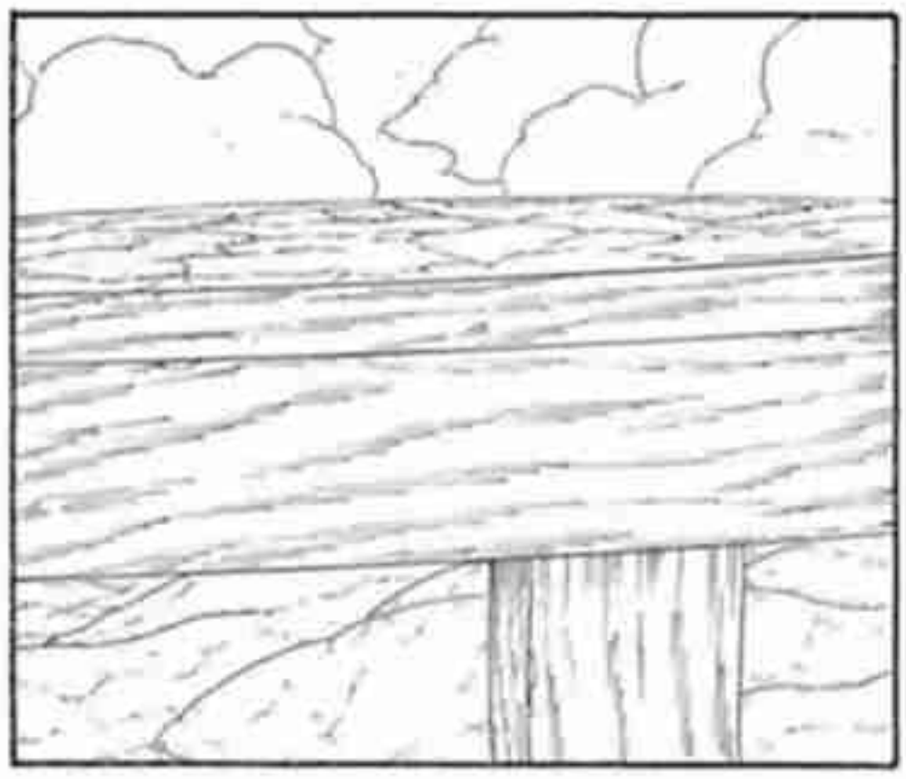
AND THAT'S INSUR-ANCE!

YOU'VE ALWAYS PREFERRED SNEAKING AROUND AND FIGHTING FROM A DISTANCE! I NEVER LIKED THAT ABOUT YOU!

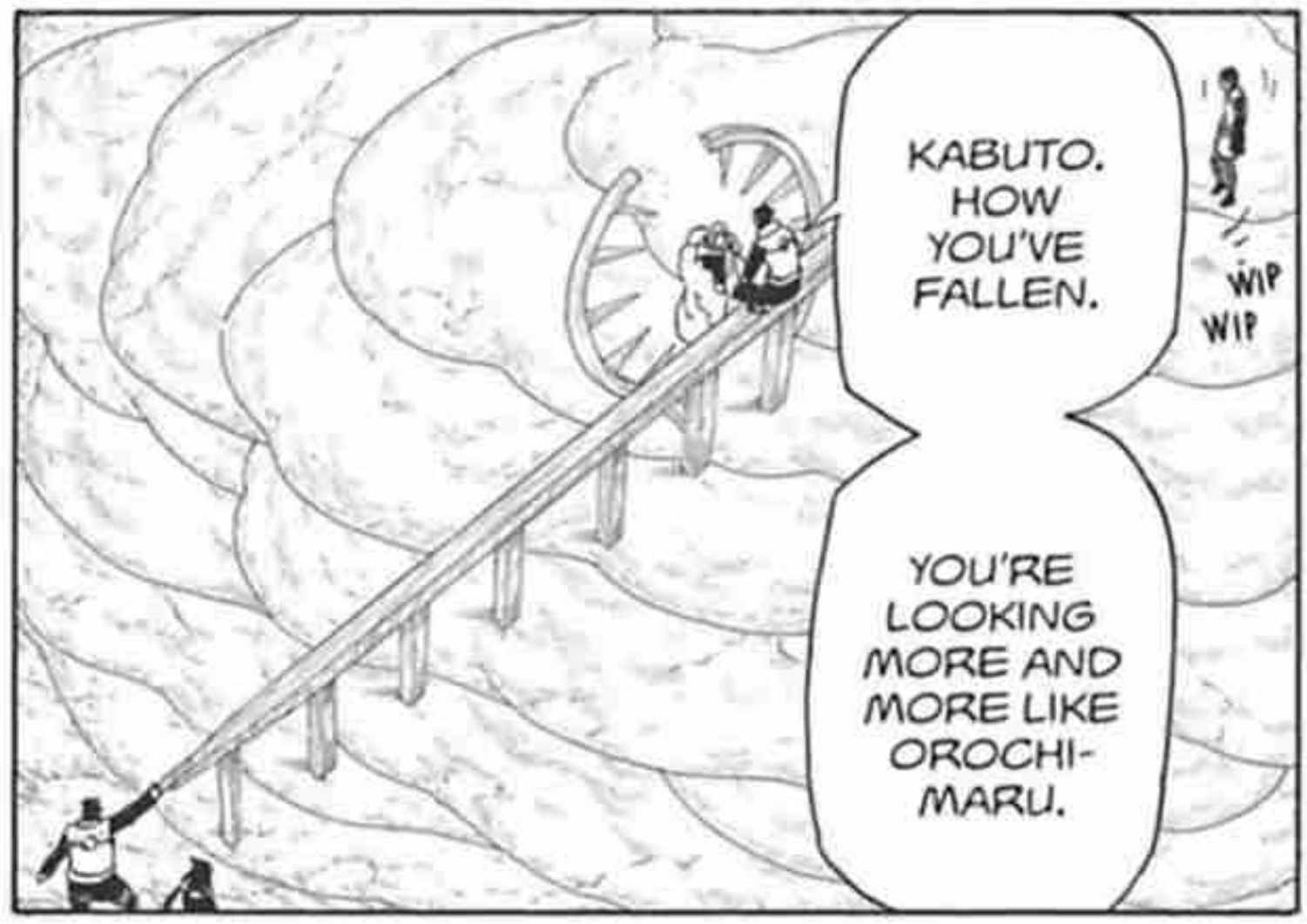
BAH, YOU'RE EVEN FASTER NOW THAN WHEN YOU WERE IN YOUR PRIME, OLD MAN!

I'LL FINISH HIM OFF WITH C4, HMM!!

SHUT UP!!



YOU OUGHT TO WORRY MORE ABOUT NOT FALLING OFF.


KABUTO. HOW YOU'VE FALLEN.
WIP WIP
YOU'RE LOOKING MORE AND MORE LIKE OROCHI-MARU.

WAH!
ZW

FOCUS, AOBA!

UNH!

HE CAN EVEN SHED HIS SKIN?!
ZWOOO

SLAM

THANKS FOR REVEALING THE DETAILS OF YOUR JUTSU, KUROTSUCHI. IT HELPED ME LULL YOU ALL OFF YOUR GUARD.
GULP

GET BACK, MOTOI!!
ZWW
AAA
OAA

TAK
GAH!!!

THMP
YAMATO!!

THD
?!!

WHOOOO

WE'LL SEE WHICH IS THE GREATER ART, YOUR PARTICLE STYLE OR MY EXPLOSION STYLE...
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME, OLD MAN!!
FW
P

THIS OUGHT TO BE FAR UP ENOUGH!!
F
SH

?!!

SWOOOO...
?!!

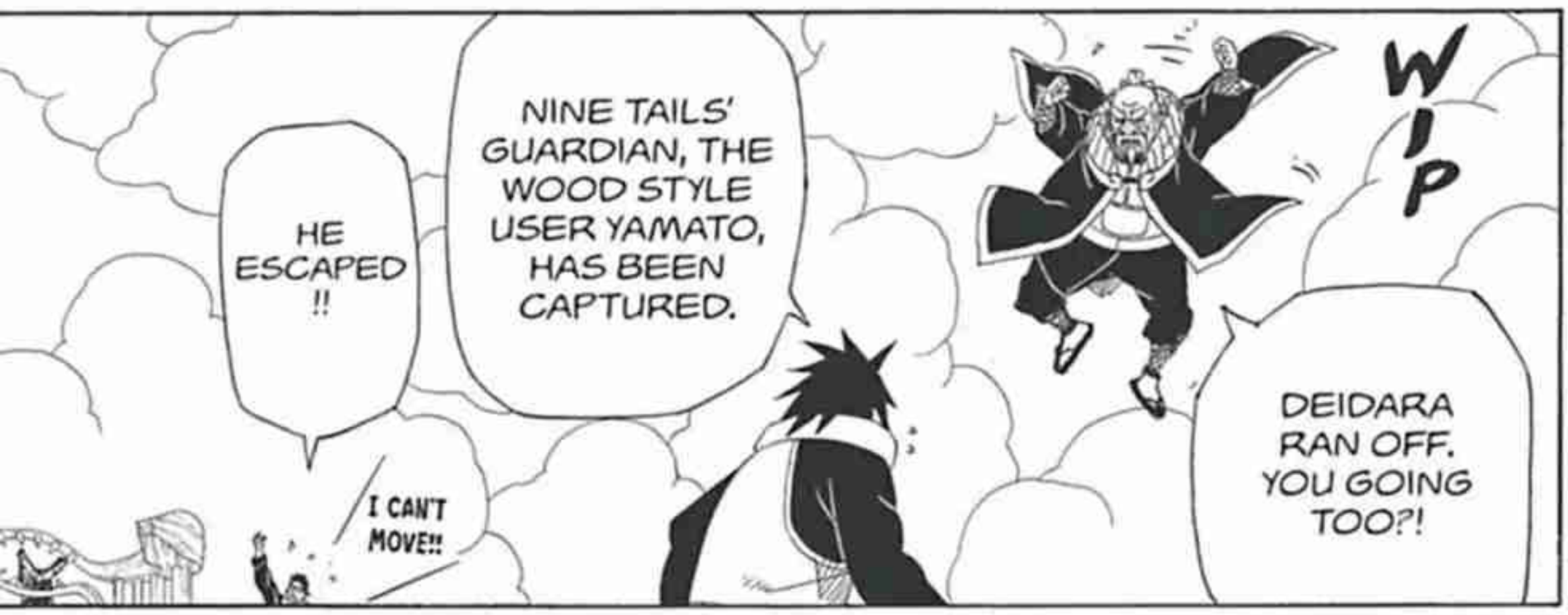
WHAT?! NOT NOW!! HMMM?!
KLOMP

SHOOM
SLITHER

BO
OF
...?!

2Wp
BAH! HE HID INSIDE THE NOSTRIL!!

BOOF
UGH!


HE ESCAPED !!
NINE TAILS' GUARDIAN, THE WOOD STYLE USER YAMATO, HAS BEEN CAPTURED.
WIP
DEIDARA RAN OFF. YOU GOING TOO?!
I CAN'T MOVE!!

NOT EVEN A DIRECTION. IT'S USELESS.
I CAN'T SENSE HIM ANYMORE.

WHICH WAY DID HE GO?!
PLEASE HELP ME!! I'VE GOT TO GO AFTER HIM!!
SQUICH...

MASTER YAMATO IS NOT THAT EASILY BROKEN, SIR!!

SSH

...BUT EITHER WAY, WE'LL HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT AN INTEL LEAK!

OWW

KRAK

IT'S HARD TO TELL WHETHER HE WAS LOOKING FOR **ANY** HOSTAGE TO INTERROGATE OR WANTED THAT WOOD STYLE USER IN PARTICULAR...

HE DIDN'T GO AFTER NINE TAILS AND EIGHT TAILS...

WAFT...

NO MATTER HOW STRONG YAMATO'S WILL, IT'S NO MATCH.

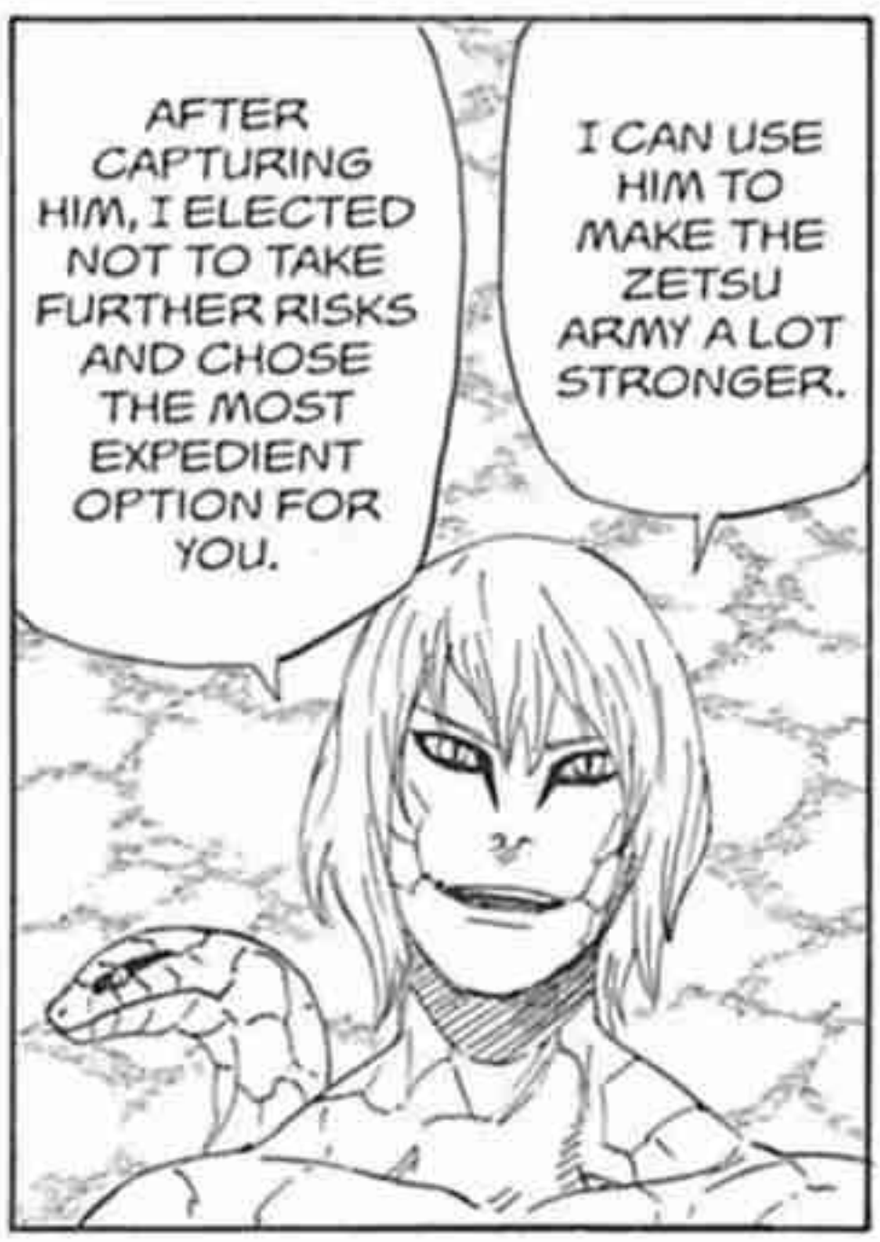
HE'S UP AGAINST MADARA, HE OF THE POWERFUL OCULAR JUTSU.

THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE.

?

UGH!

THD



THIS LEFT EYE OF MINE IS ITCHING FOR BATTLE.

THEN HURRY UP AND DO IT.

TO BE CONTINUED IN *NARUTO* VOLUME 55!